

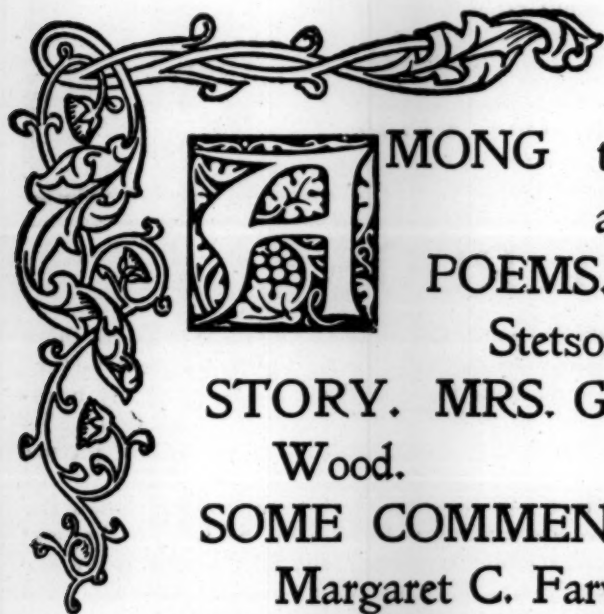


THE CLUB WOMAN

VOL. III.

BOSTON, MASS., DECEMBER, 1898.

No. 3.



AMONG the prominent features of this number are: * * * * *

POEMS. By Annie G. Murray, Charlotte Perkins Stetson, and others.

STORY. MRS. GAY'S SWELL RECEPTION. Alice M. Wood.

SOME COMMENTS ON A SUMMER'S READING. Margaret C. Farwell.

WOMAN'S CLUBS FROM A REPORTER'S POINT OF VIEW. Josephine Woodward.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER. Articles by Mrs. M. D. Thatcher of Colorado and Mrs. Sarah E. Temple of Vermont.

NEWS OF THE GENERAL AND STATE FEDERATIONS.



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THE CLUB WOMAN

A National Journal Devoted to the Interests of Women's Clubs.

VOLUME III.

BOSTON, MASS., DECEMBER, 1898.

NUMBER 4

HELEN M. WINSLOW - - - Editor.

NOTES.

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Have you attended to your renewal?

No club should make its individual work its chief aim, but hold it only as a stepping-stone to greater development.

Said somebody at the Wisconsin State convention: "There is one thing better than putting a woman on the school board: That is, put two women on."

No up-to-date club woman can afford to be without the national club organ. If you are not already a subscriber, why not? If you are, watch carefully your renewals.

Owing to the pressure on our columns this month, Mrs. Ward's Club Study Department and Mrs. Osgood's "Open Parliament" are postponed until the January issue.

A number of club women throughout the country will receive a copy of the December Club Woman free. We trust that our periodical will be carefully examined and that no further invitation to subscribe is necessary.

The word "altruism" seems to have just come into fashion among the clubs. In every convention, in almost every paper, the word bobs up beside its adjective form "altruistic," until the weary hearer pines for a synonym. Queer how certain words ride on a wave of popularity and then disappear, isn't it?

If the women of the clubs were to be mingled with non-clubbing women in an assembly, no man could select the active from the passive ladies by any of the outward signs which were once supposed to be appropriate to them. Nor is the old quip about the disregard and neglect of home duties and of husbands any longer apposite.

We shall be glad to examine short stories pertaining to clubs and club life with a view to publishing them in The Club Woman. A good club story is the rarest piece of literature in the literary market to-day. A short play, suitable for parlor or club presentation that bears upon club life on the present and future status of woman, is even rarer. Will not some reader of The Club Woman send us one?

"Did a clubwoman ever come from a meeting without feeling that she was capable of filling any office to which she may aspire," said Mrs. Emily Warren Roebling at the New York Convention, "and was not the spirit there found to be like that which, in the words of the song, would tell one to 'keep a-push-in' and a-shovin', and a-shovin' and a-pushin' till you get what you want? The club that is teaching women to make the best of themselves and their ideas is doing the best work."

Don't forget to send in your renewals.

"THE MELLOWING OF OCCASION."

ONE of those amiable ladies who think an editor has nothing in particular to do but write answers to long personal letters from people whom she has never seen, wants to know if "when a club restricts its membership to a certain number, there being room for all who would like to join, and when it refuses to allow any woman not a member to attend its lectures more than once during a season, is that club entitled to membership in the Federation?" And again, "Ought not each club, if membership becomes burdensome, to form departments for special subjects, in order that every woman in town, if she so desires, can reap the benefit of broader and enlarged views?"

"I am not a club member but am very deeply interested in all that pertains to the betterment of womanhood," she says, "and I notice that the Federation purports to 'build on the principle of broad democracy and human sympathy.'" Her question shows that she is not a club woman, especially one who has served on a finance committee. Otherwise she would not need to be told that it takes money to run a department club in such a way that every woman in town can attend whether she is a member or not. In that case, probably, there would be a very large number who would not become members and pay annual dues, since, as Josh Billings said, "Human natur' loves a free show." "Broad democracy and human sympathy" need fair play on both sides; and the long-suffering committees who must keep the club machinery going and pay for it need consideration as well as the woman who does not care to join a club.

As for those who need and want the club, and cannot join one for financial reasons, some provision should be made for them, and this leads us back to the hackneyed question of restricted or limited clubs. In a town which has only one club, that certainly should not be a limited one. The club which aims to provide departments, do philanthropic, civic or educational work, should not limit the membership; but when it comes to a class for study or reading which meets in private houses, it is almost necessary to limit it. And no one who has any conception of the field would attempt to say a limited club has no right to belong to the Federations. There are many questions of club policy which must be regulated by local conditions. The value of club work is the gaining of strength, but there are as many ways of gaining it as there are club women.

"The average club woman fails as yet to appreciate the value of specialized work," writes another correspondent. "Such periodicals as yours are positively the only means of keeping the intellectual work of the club up to high tide-water mark. Otherwise I fear the useful, helpful, beautiful and inspiring work in club life will be submerged under the maelstrom of vulgar display and political caucusing for the prominent places. And, by the way, if you can 'mellow the occasion' of a great convention of women which allows the indifferent, unposted and influenced majority to put in the president's chair a woman who is coarse in fibre and flippant in conduct, and turn down an intellectual, magnetic woman of whom the whole state is proud, I wish you would."

Far be it from our purpose to explain, even if we could, the mysteries which preside over the turning of majorities in conventions! Many a candidate has gone bravely into the fray, confident of success and fearing no foe; and many a dark horse has galloped away with the coveted position amid the plaudits

of hundreds who had scarcely given the offices a thought beforehand. Would it not be wiser to have a plan of letting the names of all candidates be known some weeks before any convention and allowing delegates to know all about them? That bright Milwaukee writer, of whom we shall see and hear a great deal during the next two years, Zona Gale, says:

Don't send your delegates to state conventions with no more interest in the outcome than to hear the announcement. Pass resolutions at your club meetings endorsing someone. Don't be represented by someone who won't know personally about the qualities, executive and otherwise, of the woman she is going to vote to put at the head of her work for this year. The coming two years, terminating in the Biennial, make the matter of the utmost importance. If you are a club woman, be one all over, and not only in so far as week to week meetings are concerned, and papers about Persian bas-reliefs. A live Federation is to be dealt with, and it ought to show itself so.

Interest in the Milwaukee Biennial is already lively. Mrs. Buchwalter of Ohio, one of the pioneers in Federation work, has charge of the program as chairman, and is already giving serious thought to the task that lies before her. There is a tremendous amount of work, as well as great responsibility in arranging for a great Biennial. It is comparatively easy to find fault with the Denver program; but it is an entirely different matter to tell definitely where and how to strengthen and improve it.

"I heard no better addresses at Denver than I can hear in my club at home," says one who belongs to a large city club with plenty of money and influence to secure the best talent of this country at its regular meetings. "I gained so much from hearing other women discuss methods and tell of their work," says the woman who belongs to a country club with limited means and few opportunities. While the state presidents are unanimously declaring that their short session with three-minute reports opened a new vista to every one of them.

It seems to resolve itself into a question of whether the Biennial program shall be made a lecture course for the favored minority, who live in cities and are already surfeited with the cream of culture from every new ism and theory; or whether it shall be the means of broadening and uplifting and enlarging the horizon of the mass of club women who have not art museums, and Lowell lectures, and symphony concerts, and technological schools, and a dozen other means of culture besides at their disposal.

Shall we try to provide new stimulus for the over-stimulated, or shall we ask and expect them to bring the results of their opportunities to the help of their sisters, to whom a Lowell lecture or a glimpse of the Congressional Library would be a revelation?

Mary Lyon used for the motto at Mt. Holyoke in the days when our mothers and grandmothers used to come under her care "Freely have ye received, freely give,"—although for that, the words originated with a Greater than Mary Lyon. What better motto for the club movement?

Culture is a worthy end, and one to which we all aspire. But whose culture? Our own or our neighbor's?

"Freely have ye received, freely give."

A SILHOUETTE.

By Annie G. Murray.

A GAIN it comes, that scent as swept from bowers
 Blooming upon some fadeless shore, where
 flowers
 And youth, and light, and love itself are one.
 Come back to me O joy, as joy begun,
 And let me hear his accents silver sweet,
 As when the burning stars above us beat
 And took their happy places side by side,
 For o'er my senses like a flooding tide
 Steals the remembrance naught but death can hide,
 Of that sweet time, so long,
 So long ago.

He dared not kiss my lips, and when my hand
 He touched, he sighed; O years swift-spanned—
 That summer hour is lingering with me still;
 The shimmer of the lake, the moon-kissed hill,
 The pallid lilies swaying in the breeze,
 The hush of sky, the daisies sleeping white,—
 I heed them all, as it were yesternight
 Waves of eternal beauty met my sight,
 In that sweet time, so long,
 So long ago.

Years drift away, and dreaming youth is spent,
 And I have lived my daily life content,—
 Yet, let me once, just once, confess the truth,
 I would give all for that brief hour of youth,—
 For then, with heart exultant and elate,
 I waited, radiant, knowing naught of fate,
 While to the heavens my rapt soul seemed to rise,
 And, like a bird, went soaring to the skies.
 For ah! I saw the gates of Paradise
 In that sweet time, so long,
 So long ago.

AT CHRISTMAS-TIME.

By Helen M. Winslow.

A T Christmas-time last year
 So many friends that now are gone were
 here!
 So many hopes were glowing then unspoken,
 So many faiths were strong that now lie broken,
 And loving hearts that trusted without fear;
 —At Christmas-time last year.

At Christmas-time this year
 So many of us find the world a drear
 And barren desert wherein blooms no rose,
 With mountain peaks surrounding it, whose snows
 Have chilled our hearts, and turned life's foliage sere,
 —At Christmas-time this year.

At Christmas-time next year,
 Who knows what changing fortunes may be near?
 Take courage, then! For night shall turn to day,
 From brightening skies the clouds must roll away.
 And faith and hope and love shall all be here
 —At Christmas-time next year.

SOME COMMENTS ON A SUMMER'S READING.

By Margaret C. Farwell.

(Written for the Wellesley Hills Woman's Club, November 2nd, 1898.)

W HAT is "summer reading"? Novels? But many of us read novels all the year round. Does it, then, consist in the proportion and quality of the novels? Hardly even that. Rather it should be said, in summer we read what we please, when we please and where we please, the restraints of clubs, classes and lecture-courses being entirely thrown off. But this particular summer has differed from all others in that there has been one pervasive, dominating influence—the Spanish war and its causes and consequences. There have been many reasons for this focus of ideas. It took three weeks for the news of the battle of Lexington to reach Machias, Maine. But this year Machias expected to hear from Manila within forty-eight hours, and we expected to do even better than that. Then there has been the wonderful whirl of events and their often surprising and dramatic character, as well as the greatness of the issues at stake. This has been indeed the "Annus Mirabilis," which, being translated, reads: "This is a great year for the Anglo-Saxon." Furthermore, we can boast an exceptionally honorable list of war correspondents, with really fine literary talents. And then, no one has escaped—none can ever forget—the thrill of emotion caused by the visible unity of the North and South, of Old England and New England. Not the least factor in compelling attention has been the large number of picturesque figures. To give one instance out of many,—we cannot hear the name of General Joseph Wheeler, "little, old, fighting Joe," without a rush of smiles and tears and great thoughts of a great epoch in history, with its pain and fury and glory and its aftermath of united loyalty.

All these things have tended to fix our thoughts, and therefore our reading, pretty well within certain definite lines. But let us be truly honest and confess that, after all, "ignorance, pure ignorance," has been the strongest impelling motive. At the beginning of the war most of us found ourselves in the position of the worthy Mr. Dooley. Mr. Dooley, be it known, is supposed to be the proprietor of a corner grocery in the city of Chicago. Said he: "Wan of the worst things about this here war is the way it's making puzzles for our poor, tired brains. Whin I wint into it, I thought all I'd have to do would be to set up here behind the counter and throw dinnymite bombs into the hated city iv Havana. But look at me now. Ivery night whin I'm countin' up me cash, I'm askin' mesilf will I annex Cubia or will I lave it to the Cubians? Will I take Porther Ricky or put it by? An' what shud I do wid the Phlippeens? O, what shud I do wid thim? I can't annex thim becaze I don't know where they ar-re. And I can't let go of thim becaze some one else'll take thim if I do."

Right here a word of tribute must be paid to the ability and fine quality of the articles in the leading magazines. Those who read the July, August and September numbers of the Atlantic, Harper, Century, Scribner, McClure and Review of Reviews must have found their ignorance much dispelled. The Atlantic has been especially marked by its strength and high-mindedness.

"The Nation's Navy," a book written by Charles Morris, is less interesting than John R. Spears' four-volumed work on the same subject. But since life is short, it is good to find a single volume giving so clear and comprehensive an account of the history and present status of our navy. The technicalities of the subject are made to seem simple. It is but a short time ago when the newspapers abounded with jokes likes this: "The

United States navy disappeared last night, up the Hudson River." Many of us are still rubbing our eyes and wondering where our present navy came from, and whether it grew itself. To which wonderings Mr. Morris makes reply. To quote a line or two: "The success of the Americans was due to the superior character of their ships, the higher discipline of their crews, and the better service of their guns. Their cannon were heavier and every shot told." Does this sound like 1898? But it was written of the year 1812. Evidently our navy is no mushroom growth.

"The Spaniard in History," a small book by James C. Fernald, is a compact and trustworthy summary of the facts in the case. It is cheering to reflect, however, that the Spaniard, that is, the unofficial Spaniard, is better than his history. General Grant once said: "The Latin race is doomed." But there are good reasons, gleaned from the summer's reading, for the belief that the Spaniard may yet bring the dawn of a new day to his fellow-Latins. His faults are rather those of ignorance and arrested development than of degeneration.

Grover Flint's "Marching with Gomez" has thrown much light on the Cuban question. A careful reading of this book has kept some American citizens from elevating the Cuban revolutionist into a saint or depressing him into a fiend. His merits at Quantanamo and his demerits at Santiago are both foreshadowed here. He seems to make a good guerilla but a poor regular. On the whole, the impression left by this book is one of respect and hopefulness regarding the Cuban cause. We should heed the caution contained in the preface written by John Fiske: "We may well pause before concluding that it is an immutable decree of Providence that no people are fit to govern themselves except those who speak English." Stephen Bonsal's "Real Condition of Cuba," though an even more severe arraignment of Spain than Mr. Flint's book, yet furnishes a contrast in one respect, for Bonsal was with the Spanish army instead of the Insurgent. For a calm, dispassionate discussion of facts, a valuable reference book, we can point to Rowan and Ramsay's "Island of Cuba." Rowan is the officer who was sent by our government on a secret mission to Garcia, early in the war. Ramsay is a professor of Romance languages in Columbia University.

Re-read Kingsley's "Westward Ho!" and then while the glamor is still upon you of the fresh-bubbling life of the age of discovery, the Eldorado season of history, with its brave men and its untrodden, tangled wildernesses,—turn to the quaint, little, paper-covered volume called "With Dewey at Manila." Connect in your minds Drake and Dewey, those old sea-fights between Englishman and Spaniard with the battles of Manila and Santiago, the beginning of the great struggle in the 16th century with its end in the summer of 1898—and then exclaim even yet, "Oh, brave young world!"

Fiction has seemed tame this summer, especially modern fiction. For the first time it has been easy to believe in the prophecy of the passing of the novel. The most interesting one I have read for several months is "Tom Burke of Ours," written in 1844 by Charles Lever. It is a story of Napoleon's campaigns, the hero being an Irishman who enters the French army. It meanders slowly along in the good, old-fashioned way, with plenty of scenery and reflections, but it has a certain vigor and sense of reality often lacking in more modern stories. Anthony Trollope is good for times of excitement. I re-read all of the Barchester series with considerable increase of serenity and avoirdupois. The style is so smooth and lucid, and one never cares what happens to his characters!

Sometime, when the club is not too busy, let us take up a new cause: the founding of an asylum for successful authors. We would make this a veritable Happy Vale of Rasselas. Here no rough winds should blow, and here should be gathered all

the joys of earth except—pen and ink and typewriter girls. Into this blissful retreat, had it been already prepared, we would have put Richard Harding Davis after he wrote "Soldiers of Fortune," and before he had a chance to write "The King's Jackal"; Crockett after "The Lilac Sunbonnet" and before "The Red Axe"; Anthony Hope after "The Heart of the Princess Osra" and before "Rupert of Hentzau"; and Marion Crawford long, long ago.

The story I have liked next to "Tom Burke" is Blackmore's "Dariel." The quiet humor is a unique feature, peculiar to this author. The half-tender, half-teasing relations of a brother and sister are deliciously treated. "Caleb West, Master Diver," by Hopkinson Smith, has a genuine salt-sea flavor and is also Dickensy. We find here another specimen of the out-at-elbows, post-bellum Southerner whom we so delight to meet,—in a book. A clever story is "The Duenna of a Genius," by an author not known to me.

In more serious vein again, comes Mark Twain's "Following the Equator." It is not out of place to so class this book since we are told that Mr. Clemens likes to be taken seriously. There is not much fun in the book after all, and it is, on the other hand, a good reference book. The early convict system in Australia and the story of the Jameson raid are among the many distinct topics well and clearly treated.

Benjamin Kidd's "Control of the Tropics" is interesting but somewhat indefinite. It seems uncertain just how he wishes to have the tropics controlled. Therefore, it was with a feeling of picking up a clue that one listened to his address before the Twentieth Century Club the other evening. Apparently he wishes to have the tropics governed in the same way that England now governs or controls Egypt.

"Political Crime," a book translated from the French of Louis Proal, is touched by that note of discouragement peculiar to the Latins. The Englishman scolds but does not despair. M. Proal has a sturdy moral sense, however, and his teaching should be taken to heart by our more youthful nation. He says: "The malady from which contemporary society suffers is a moral disease, rather than a political or economic disease. It is doubtless useful to improve institutions and to reform abuses, but how much more necessary it is to reform morals and to give tone to men's minds by healthy ideas and moral beliefs." His views may be summed up in that modern phrase, "Humanity is incurably religious," with the added inference that humanity therefore needs nothing so much as religion.

Someone has said that only by reading poetry do we keep the upper windows of our minds open. The magazines and even the despised newspaper corner have supplied us with good reading of that sort. The Czar's peace message called out from Rudyard Kipling that strong but terrible poem, "The Truce of the Bear." At first it seems that such a poem is too savage to read; but after learning how a former Czar broke his solemn pledge to Bismarck that there should be no Russo-Turkish war, one's confidence, not in the Czar, but in the Russian Bear, is shaken. Then when a Russian official naively explains that the Czar expects that peace throughout the world will be maintained by forbidding all press criticism of the findings of his court of arbitration—that is, if we do not like it we shall not be allowed to say so—then, indeed, we begin to "fear the Greeks bringing gifts," which quotation is an old version of "The Truce of the Bear."

A recent number of the Literary World declares that the Spanish war has produced no poetry. But the Literary World must have been away on a vacation, and certainly has not kept a scrapbook. Mine contains a most interesting collection of all kinds, good and bad, doggerel and lyric. The doggerel is by no means to be despised. Here is a bit:

"I give my heart to my country!
Cried the sturdy boy in blue;
The rations were nothing but pork and beans,
So he gave his stomach, too."

Even the inferior poems often contain lines and couplets that will haunt one for many a day. As this:

"He who strikes a blow at Maine
Shall reckon yet with Oregon."

Besides the evident naval allusion, written as the lines were when the Oregon was hurrying around the Horn, there is yet deeper meaning. They suggest all the poetry of our form of government, the pluribus and the unum, the brotherhood of great principalities.

Among the poems which are really fine and which have grown dear with much reading, it is hard to choose. Edith M. Thomas wrote a short one for the Century called "Three Women in War Time"; and William Prescott Foster has a fine sonnet called "Democracy." Here is the last verse of Guy Wetmore Carryl's poem, "When the Great Gray Ships Come In":

"Yes, it is good to battle, and good to be strong and free,
To carry the hearts of a people to the uttermost ends of sea;
To watch the day steal up the bay where the enemy lies in wait,
To run your ship to the harbor's lip and sink her across the strait;—
But better the golden evening when the ships round head for home,
And the long gray miles slip swiftly past in a swirl of seething foam;
And the people wait at the haven's gate to greet the men who win!
Thank God for peace! thank God for peace! when the great gray ships come in!"

MRS. GAY'S SWELL RECEPTION.

By Alice M. Wood.

"O ROBERT!" cried Nellie Gay, as she whisked down the walk to meet him, "I have the loveliest idea—I'm going to give a reception."

"A what?" asked her husband in a puzzled tone.

"A reception. They're all the rage East, and no one has ever had one here, and it's to be a perfectly elegant affair, and it shan't cost you a cent, for I'll take the money mother sent me for a new winter cloak, and—"

"But do let me get my breath and my supper, Nell, and then you can tell me all about this new-fangled tea-party of yours."

"But it isn't a tea-party. Cousin Blanche wrote me all about a lovely reception she attended at Rochester a few days ago, and it was awfully swell, and I'm going to have one just as near like it as possible."

"Why not invite a few couples in to supper and have a game of whist afterwards?"

"Robert Gay, I believe you'd have me wear myself out every night all winter if only you could get your game of whist. At that rate I'd never get my obligations paid up."

"Will you invite the men too?" asked Mr. Gay as he tucked the napkin under his chin.

"There wouldn't one come if I did," rejoined his wife, "for it's to be in the afternoon. I'll have the house darkened—"

"What'll the folks do, stumbling around in the dark?" he asked somewhat contemptuously.

"Goose! I'll have the gas lighted," explained Mrs. Gay with considerable asperity.

"You must enjoy paying gas bills," remarked Mr. Gay. "Daylight's good enough for me when I can get it."

"You just have to do it now-a-days, if you expect to have any style about you," and there was an air of finality about the answer which discouraged further remonstrance.

"What's the difference between a reception and a tea-party?" inquired the gentleman.

"A tea-party!" echoed Mrs. Gay scornfully. "Perhaps you'd like to have me give a quilting bee?" with withering sarcasm.

"That's the very kind of entertainment where I first saw you, little girl," and her husband's eyes twinkled.

Seeing that the usual smile was not forthcoming, he concluded that in his wife's eyes at least the subject under consideration was of great moment, so he hastily continued, "But you haven't told me how a reception is superior to other modes of entertaining."

"Well," began Mrs. Gay interestedly, "a reception's nice because you can ask anybody to it. I mean to ask our entire woman's club to this, for so far no one but the president has entertained them all at home."

"So that's your ambition, is it?" and he laughed teasingly. "Isn't the presidential chair rather—"

With a rising flush she interrupted him.

"That has nothing to do with the matter! I shall ask several church acquaintances also, and you certainly can't accuse me of wanting to be the minister. The beauty of a reception," she continued hastily, "is that you can ask everybody to it, people you wouldn't think of entertaining any other way. And I'll have four pieces of music," warning to her subject, "the dancing teacher who plays the violin and three others, and they can sit at the head of the stairs; and I'll have my refreshments in two rooms, just like that Rochester reception; and I think, as long as I'm about it, I'll give two luncheons the same week, sixteen ladies at each, and play progressive pedro after one and drive whist after the other, and that will pay up all my indebtedness."

"You remind me," interjected Mr. Gay, "of a little girl I used to know back in Whitesboro when I was a little boy. She was sent to invite some ladies to tea, and to each one she said: 'Mother wants you to be sure to come, for she wants to get the mean job over before housecleaning.'"

"Well, why shouldn't I?" inquired his wife, rather inconsequently.

"But won't the women who are asked to the reception feel slighted at not being asked to the luncheon?" he persisted.

"Why should they, when I'm just going to wear myself out over that reception? I just won't fuss along in the old-fashioned way; I'm going to have something that will make people open their eyes."

"As nearly as I can see," observed her husband critically, "your main object is to outshine your neighbors."

Mrs. Gay's blue eyes filled with tears as she replied, "I don't see how you can suggest anything so horrid!"

"There, there," he said soothingly, "I didn't mean to be disagreeable. But why not put the luncheons off until later in the season? You will be all worn out."

"I want the whole thing over in one week, for I'm going to send Madge and Teddy to your mother's for a few days. If you're going to entertain, children are more trouble than the company."

"How about Mrs. Rafferty?" and his eyes twinkled.

"I shall invite her, of course," with dignity. "That's the

beauty of a reception, you can ask anybody. Whatever my faults," majestically, "no one can say that I'm the least bit snobbish. I never can forget how kind Mrs. Rafferty was when Teddy had diphtheria and no one else would come near us. How good her brown bread used to taste," she continued reminiscently.

"Well," said Mr. Gay, with the air of dismissing the whole subject, "of course you'll do just as you please, but I'll bet forty great apples you'll wish you hadn't done it."

When Mrs. Duncan met Mrs. Fenn in the post-office some days later, she could see that her friend showed traces of considerable agitation.

"Are you invited to Mrs. Gay's reception?" asked Mrs. Duncan.

"That's just it," replied Mrs. Fenn helplessly. "What is a reception, anyway?"

"Well, I'm rather at sea about it myself," confessed Mrs. Duncan. "If there were more time I'd write to the Ladies' Home Journal and find out what a reception is. Mrs. James says you have to keep on your bonnet and gloves and take a card with you, but the whole thing seems ridiculous to me; if you go yourself, what's the use of taking a card?"

"Well, I've heard it's the proper thing," replied her friend with more assurance. "I believe I'll just make up my mind to go and quit worrying over it. I hear it's going to be very elaborate; refreshments in two rooms, one room all pink and the other all yellow, and eatables to match the decorations. She's asked Mrs. Jessup and Mrs. Smart to receive with her, and Mrs. Robbins is to sit at the yellow table and pour Russian tea, and some one else is to wear a pink dress and sit at the pink table."

"I dare say it will be very fine," rejoined Mrs. Duncan, in the tone of one still harassed by doubts, "but I wish I was more certain about keeping on my bonnet. It seems such a silly thing to do unless you're in church. But here comes Mrs. Crum; let's ask her. O, Mrs. Crum," she cried, turning to the lady in question, "are you going to the reception?"

"I've not really decided yet," said that lady, with an air of suppressed mystery. "I suppose you are both going to the pedro luncheon?"

"A luncheon! Where?" exclaimed both her hearers anxiously.

"At Mrs. Gay's; the day after the reception. I am invited to both," and she paused to let the announcement have due weight.

"I'm sure," said Mrs. Duncan, "if anyone is invited twice I ought to be. She's more indebted to me than she is to you."

"I must say," rejoined Mrs. Crum in a tone of astonishment, through which crept a note of subdued exultation, "I was surprised at being so honored. I am so little acquainted with Mrs. Gay. I understand she's making the most elaborate preparations; intends to astonish the natives, I expect."

"What have you heard about it?" inquired both ladies eagerly.

"Well, I saw her buying two bolts of ribbon, one pink and one yellow, and the florist says she has given him quite a large order. She evidently intends to give the town pointers on how to entertain. I know three ladies in my neighborhood who are invited to the whist luncheon, and none of them are going."

"Have they sent regrets?"

"Oh, no," replied Mrs. Crum carelessly. "They'll let her know before noon the day of the party; that will be time enough," and Mrs. Crum tapped loudly on box 117.

"All I have to say," remarked Mrs. Duncan bitterly, as the two others separated at the post-office door, "is that I have tried in every way to be a friend to Mrs. Gay since she moved

here, and if she thinks she can snub her old friends like this, she needn't expect to retain their friendship very long."

"I feel like Noah's dove," groaned Mr. Gay the night before the reception, as he ate a frugal supper off the laundry tubs. "I shall be glad when all this foolishness is over."

"You won't be any gladder than I shall," rejoined Mrs. Gay irritably. "But," she continued more hopefully, "I'll say one thing for it, it will be the swellest affair ever given in this town. Now you be sure to go to your mother's to dinner to-morrow, and you can see if the children are getting on all right."

"I don't know about this sending the children to mother's; I heard her say she'd brought up one family and didn't care to bring up another," and Mr. Gay hunted for the butter to put on his cold johnnycake.

"Well, if your mother can't take care of her own grandchildren for a day or two—" and Mrs. Gay burst into tears of utter exhaustion.

"Never mind, Nell," said her husband kindly, "she hasn't said anything about it this time, and I dare say she doesn't mind it. You're all worn out. Do get to bed and try to sleep. I hope," he added anxiously, "that Augusta Oleson hasn't given warning. She seemed to slam that door behind her with more vehemence than was exactly necessary."

"If she does," said Mrs. Gay desperately, "I shall just have to offer her two seventy-five. It's more than any one else is giving, but I can't be left with those two luncheons on my hands. Do light the little lamp for me, and I'll go down cellar and see how the chicken for the salad is keeping."

Pretty soon Mr. Gay heard her voice from below: "Robert, do come down here a minute."

He went, and found her sniffing suspiciously at a large chopping bowl full of meat. "Oh, Robert," she wailed, "do smell this chicken; it doesn't seem just right."

Mr. Gay's nose went up disgustingly. "I don't have to get any nearer," he said; "that meat is spoiled."

Bursting into tears, Mrs. Gay dropped on the bottom step of the cellar stairs and covered her head with her apron.

"What did you want to get this wretched stuff ready for so far ahead of time?" he asked in exasperation.

"I d-didn't," she wailed. "I cooked the chickens Saturday, and it's only Tuesday now. I kept Gusta home from church and we got the meat ready Sunday, and if this mild weather hadn't come on it would have been all right."

"Well, I think you'd better have gone to church," said Mr. Gay shortly. Then, as her sobs increased, he ventured, "I've heard that charcoal—"

"This is too far gone for charcoal," she moaned. "You'll have to go to some wholesale grocery the first thing in the morning and order a case of canned chicken. I've got to have salad for my yellow room."

"Confound your yellow room!" he began; but the sight of the tired little figure sobbing her heart out behind the check apron was too much for him, and he promised to scour the town the next day for the desired chicken.

Notwithstanding her anxiety and fatigue, Mrs. Gay could not help a thrill of satisfaction as she stood next day contemplating the various arrangements. The parlor, with its soft lights and flowers; the dining-room, with its table of glass and silver, smilax and pink ribbons; the library, with its dainty rolls of bread and butter tied with yellow ribbons; everything seemed satisfactory, and she gave a sigh of relief.

But why didn't those musicians come? Already people were beginning to drop in. The dressmakers who were invited came early, and stood about with eyes keenly observant. The line of receiving women was already in place.

"Do go across the street," whispered Mrs. Gay to a lady near her, "and telephone and find out where the Professor is." The messenger returned shortly and said: "The Professor forgot all about you; he's over Baker's book store giving a dancing lesson."

"For pity's sake, tell him to come immediately," was the desperate reply.

In about twenty minutes four men came to the front door, hastily summoned by the repentant Professor, and bearing with them sign manual of their previous employment, one man being in his overalls. The Professor, too much chagrined to appear himself, sent a man to play the piano. Under these changed circumstances it was impossible to seat the musicians at the head of the stairs, so they proceeded to the library where the piano was.

By this time others had made their appearance, but not in such numbers as the invitations had warranted, and the anxious hostess had begun to feel vaguely that there was something wrong somewhere. Several guests came down stairs without their bonnets, took a hasty glance into the parlor, and returned to the dressing room, whence they shortly descended duly gloved and bonneted.

Among the first to arrive was Mrs. Rafferty, whose mellow brogue made cheerful music throughout the rooms. "An' it's a fine day ye're havin' for yer party, Mrs. Gay, darlint! Sure I'll stand here where I can see iviry wan that's after comin'." And she placed herself in line.

Mrs. Larrabee, whom Mrs. Gay had asked to help receive, slowly raised her lorgnette and eyed the guileless Mrs. Rafferty. Mrs. Larrabee was the only woman in town who used a lorgnette, and in asking her to assume a prominent position in the receiving line, Mrs. Gay had not been without a due sense of the desirability of that eyeglass as a feature in the social landscape.

"Mrs. Gay," said the lady with the lorgnette, carefully lowering that instrument, "I see you have invited another to take my place, so I will retire," and she went home dignified and implacable.

Explanation at that time was impossible, and the unhappy hostess could only groan inwardly.

At this juncture Mrs. Gay became aware that Mrs. Robbins was beckoning frantically from the door. "It's the man in the overalls," explained Mrs. Robbins piteously. "He keeps reaching over my shoulder and helping himself to the bon-bons."

With quick exasperation Mrs. Gay went to the library and warned the offending musician. The warning was whispered; the reply was not. With fire gleaming from his eye the offender rose to his feet, and his tones distinctly audible to the entire room said: "If ye think yer money gives ye the right to lord it over a poor man, I'm sorry fer ye. Ye can settle it bechune you and yer God. Come, min!" and they went.

Smothered smiles ran about the room. Mrs. Gay bit her lips to keep back the forcing tears. One of the guests played and sang.

Then a note marked "Immediate" was handed Mrs. Gay. It was from Mr. Gay's Aunt Hitty, for whom Madge was named, and from whom the Gay family had pleasurable though indistinct "expectations." It read:—

Mrs. Robert Gay:—

I understand that this reception to which you have done me the honor to invite me is a stand-up affair, and is to be followed by two parties where your guests will be allowed the privilege of sitting down. If you have no more sense of propriety than to invite an old lady like me to the former, then I am glad to say that I have sense enough to stay away.

Very respectfully, Mehitable Mears.

"And that woman never had a card in her hand, and yet

she thinks she ought to be invited to whist and pedro parties," thought poor Nellie Gay, whose cup was now about full. As nearly all the guests had by this time departed, she turned to Mrs. Robbins and said:

"Can you tell me why there are not more persons here this afternoon? Why didn't Mrs. Duncan come, and Mrs. Fenn, and others that I thought were my friends?"

Mrs. Robbins turned doubtfully to Mrs. Cary, who had just come from her place at the pink table. "Tell her," said that lady briefly.

"Well," said Mrs. Robbins hesitatingly, "you could hardly expect them to come after that remark you made."

"What remark?" inquired the wretched hostess.

"About the McGintys, you know."

"What McGintys? I never made any remark about any McGintys," was Mrs. Gay's indignant protest.

"Oh, yes, you did; you said you were going to ask your friends to luncheon, but a reception was good enough for the McGintys."

"I never made such a remark in my life!" Mrs. Gay had broken down completely by this time. "Do you suppose," she went on earnestly, "that I'd spend fifty dollars to entertain people and then go and insult them?"

"Oh, but you certainly said it; a very intimate friend of yours told Mrs. Duncan so."

"What intimate friend?" begged Mrs. Gay, between her sobs.

"I refuse to state; I never make trouble between friends," said Mrs. Robbins loftily.

"But it's only just to me to tell who it is that I'm trusting and who is circulating such falsehoods about me," urged Mrs. Gay.

But Mrs. Robbins and Mrs. Cary were both obdurate, and Mrs. Gay was given no opportunity to exculpate herself. In vain did she plead to know who it was that, under the guise of friendship, had thus injured her. "A very intimate friend said you made the remark to her," was all the answer she ever received, and all her asseverations to the contrary met with gloomy incredulity. For that night, and many nights after, her pillow was soaked in tears. Then there were those dreadful luncheons to go through, those luncheons that are a horror in remembrance to this day, partly because three regrets were not received until half-past twelve the same day, and she had almost to go on her knees to some of the affronted "McGinty" neighbors to get them to fill the vacant places. But live through her experience she certainly did, and emerged from it a sadder but wiser woman, though it has left her somewhat cynical as regards friendship between women. All this happened seven years ago, and Mrs. Gay has never attempted to "entertain" since.

The following conversation took place at the adjournment of the next club meeting:

"I presume you attended that wonderful reception?"

"Well, no; I was a McGinty, but I didn't care to attend."

"Did she really ask Mrs. Rafferty to receive with her?"

"No; but it took her a whole afternoon to convince Mrs. Larrabee that no offence was intended."

"And then Mrs. Rafferty heard of it and went right over to Mrs. Gay's and told her that it would better become the part of a friend to instruct a neighbor in social observances than to talk about her afterwards."

"It was a shame the way Mrs. Rafferty was treated; such a kind-hearted woman, and so good to the family when Teddy had diphtheria. But some folks have no sense of gratitude."

"How did Madame Gay like being left out of the parties and made a child's nurse of?"

"I understand she resented it deeply, but said nothing for her son's sake."

"Did you ever hear that Mrs. Gay had aspirations towards the presidency of this club?"

"Impossible! But even if she ever had any chance in that direction it's gone now; she's by far the most unpopular woman in the club."

WOMAN'S CLUBS FROM A REPORTER'S POINT OF VIEW.

By Josephine Woodward, of the Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

[This paper was to have been given at Denver, and was read at the recent convention of the Ohio State Federation.]

I AM fond of applause, and I feel that I should make the most of my pleasant greeting, for it may be all that I shall get to-day; however, I feel that I ought to be willing to forego the thrills of pleasure that would come through the gratification of my vanity for the greater luxury of honest speaking.

Newspapers lie so much (you all say we do—we all know that we do) that the prospect of being permitted to speak the truth for twenty minutes looms up before me with all the seductiveness of a wild dissipation, a mad orgie, a debauch. I shall revel for a few moments, and then hereafter I shall know whether you mean what you say when you wish from the bottom of your hearts that newspaper reports could be depended upon.

I would like to call your attention to the fact that the title of my paper is "Woman's Clubs from a Reporter's Point of View"—not "the" reporter's.

I don't wish to interfere with the influence of my sisters of the press by making them in any measure responsible for my own opinions.

I will only use one prop for support: the expressed belief that the Cincinnati club women—to whom I am indebted for so many courtesies, but more than everything else, whose friendship I enjoy—will at least guarantee that malice had no place in my heart.

I am only a poor, stupid fool who believes in the doctrine of laziness and the religion of happiness, and who believes that the greatest success in life is to love everybody worth loving, and to have everybody worth being loved by love you; who believes that it is better to eat a piece of your cake every single day of your life than to save it up until the end of the year and find it stale; only a poor, weak-minded person, who would "rather be pleasant than President"—even of a woman's club.

Once, a long time ago, before club women had taught me how to lie cheerfully and glibly, and before I had taught myself the value of silence, I undertook to give in print my honest opinion of some club proceeding or other.

I have never tried it since. The truth crushed to earth that day now rises for the first time.

Since that tragic day, when I was led from the path of truth and duty by a club woman, I have made it a practice, in reporting club proceedings, to find out what the president of the club, or the chairman of the department, would like to have said, and then say it, no matter what my own judgment may be. It simplifies matters immensely.

And if the lady who reads the paper of the day has an account of it already prepared for publication, I accept the contribution to club literature with a glad hand.

It usually reads something after this fashion: "Mrs. Blank's review of Tolstoi and his works was the most brilliant-

ly comprehensive essay it has been our good fortune to hear in many a day. This gifted woman is probably better qualified to speak of the great Russian author and what he has written than any other critic in this vicinity, since she has the most beautiful silver samovar in town, and invariably takes lemon in her tea, even when she is alone."

I may possibly blue pencil the samovar and the tea, but the "brilliantly comprehensive" and the "gifted woman" go to the printer's in her own handwriting.

Sometimes my conscience even troubles me because I haven't added something—some little tribute of my own—I do like to be pleasant.

Then there are always the poor and the sick and the lame and the timid women to be considered and encouraged.

That is what women's clubs are for—to encourage those who need encouragement. All the club members ask is that the press shall do the encouraging.

It is so much easier and less compromising, and, of course, altogether quite the same thing, ethically considered, for a club member to ask the reporter to "Please say something pleasant about poor, little Mrs. Brown—she's so unfortunate, you know; just look at her clothes"; than it would be for this same club member to go to poor, little Mrs. Brown and pat her on the back and say, "Good for you; I'm glad you belong to our club and I'm glad I know you. I'm coming to call on you."

It is no hardship for the average reporter to lie under these circumstances. (The average reporter has worn shabby clothes herself.) To tell the truth, I love to lie for the poor little Mrs. Browns of the clubs. Of all the club members who need encouragement, the poor, the sick, the lame, the timid, I would rather praise the woman who is too poor to buy good clothes to wear. She needs sympathy the most for she gets the least. It has become a passion with me to lie for her—you can't ask too much of me on her account—only I wish that some of you would occasionally do a little lying on your own accounts.

In fact, I am here to-day, ladies, to ask you to pause in your mad careers before it is too late. There is yet time while there remains one club reporter uncorrupted by your system. Some of you may know of one. I do not.

But the sweet opportunity to lie in behalf of a poor little Mrs. Brown is unfortunately of rare occurrence, for there aren't very many poor little Mrs. Browns in city clubs.

They can't get in.

For the woman's club, so far as my observation of it goes in this part of the country, is still an aristocracy.

There are queens of clubs, and the number of high cards is out of all proportion to the sequences. I have yet to know of a woman proving herself brilliant enough and amiable enough and respectable enough to be invited to dinner by a club woman who didn't already know her socially.

The club woman of social position has a speaking acquaintance on the street. She calls when Mrs. Brown dies and looks at her through her lorgnette and says "Yes, a member of our club—so bright," and then notices that she is wearing the same dress, and how threadbare the carpet is under the coffin. Very likely the poor thing died because she was so lonesome. Killed by a club frost!

The yearning for companionship is strong in every human heart. Women's clubs are probably the outgrowth of just such a need, but they have not recognized it and have mistaken the beginning, the means, and the end. The law of natural selection and compatibility is as strong as the yearning for companionship, and on this basis may be excused the exclusiveness of women's clubs; but there are reasons for inclusiveness. "The greatest good to the greatest number," is the motto of so many

clubs, and yet sometimes, in her pessimistic moments, the club reporter imagines that the average woman goes into the club for the sole purpose of keeping somebody else out. That is, if a woman needs to know a lot of nice women, she must be black-balled by them.

Women's clubs have claimed to be democratic and have built up aristocracies. They imagine themselves reformers and satisfy themselves with the imagination. They pose before the world as seeking the accomplishment of great good, and when they see themselves in print, with all their theories aired and expounded, they are willing to believe that the good has been accomplished. They have acquired a reputation for activity at the expense of truth, and it is not fair or honest.

The lying done by club reporters at the instigation—nay, not only the solicitation, but the entreaties and commands of club women—is not altogether a laughing matter by any means. It involves more than you think. It involves a lack of honest purpose and it involves the growth of the club, not to mention the demoralization of the club reporter, to which I first referred.

It is a curious fact that the same women who say that newspapers ought to be honest, and who decry untruths and shams, who are fiercest in their denunciation of misleading statements in print, do not hesitate to dictate misleading statements in regard to their clubs. They are not willing to grant the newspaper the privilege of judgment, and yet this is the same judgment which they insist should be brought into public service on other subjects. It may not be unfailingly correct, but it is generally unbiased and tolerably ripened by experience, and as fit to be trusted in one case as another. At least fair treatment might be expected from it.

To look upon the reporter as a natural enemy is a mistake. She may seem to you a bit inclined to iconoclasm and not quite sufficiently enthusiastic in espousing your views, but an enemy—no. Why not be honest with her? She probably never thinks anything worse about you than that she would rather be an idler's club and be idle than be a literary club and not be literary.

I sometimes think that the mind's eye of the average reporter may be nearsighted, and that many things that appear of ample proportions to other eyes seem small to it at the same distance; or it may be that the eye itself is too small, like the eye of the canary bird or the butterfly—the picture thrown upon it is too minute to seem important. It may be that people with such eyes take naturally to reporting, and it may be that the use of the mind's eye for reportorial purposes produces, in time, a condition which borders on astigmatism and may be accountable for the pangs we sometimes suffer—the sort of pangs I suffer, for instance, when I am called up by telephone, after midnight, by a club woman who begs me to mention in glowing terms an address that has seemed maudlin to me, or to speak of a singer whose voice has really caused me pain, as having "contributed in no small measure to the pleasure of the afternoon; or when she implores me, if I love her and wish ever to be admitted to the club again, to say nothing—not a word—about the differences of opinion that have taken place that afternoon at the club, when it has been the only really interesting meeting of the year—the only time when there has been any opportunity for writing an interesting report. It is only a difference in the point of view.

By the way, if any of you have ever attempted to interview a club woman on any other subject than that of her own paper, you can more readily understand my inclination to doubt the general good of clubs. The club reporter is apt to incline to the belief that women's clubs take themselves too seriously.

The difference between women's clubs and men's clubs is that men's clubs were never intended to be serious, but have

always been taken seriously by women, while women's clubs are serious, but never have been taken seriously by men.

Most women's club meetings are like most American dinners and afternoon teas, and the other set pieces of our social system—absolutely lacking in a certain quality of gay, good-humored daring, and full of a conventionalism that is both material and dull.

You find chairmen of departments of sociology and municipal government presiding as if they were serving little cakes and weak tea.

The club reporter has to do something every single day of her life, and so she must be excused if it sometimes seems to her that the clubs are satisfied with infinite nothings—that they miss opportunities, that the members fritter conversation and stare superciliously at all expressions of original thought. The club circle doesn't always seem to her so broad and luminous as it does to you; but, as I said before, there may be something wrong with her eyes.

To confess the whole truth, the objects of women's clubs bewilder me, and their solemnity appalls me, and I don't know why they want me to tell so many fibs about them.

I have been reporting club meetings for four years, and I am tired of hearing reviews of the books I was brought up on. I am tired of amateur performers at occasions announced to be for purposes either of enjoyment or improvement. I am tired of suffering under the pretence of acquiring culture. I am tired of hearing the word "culture" used so wantonly. Culture seems to me like the nut which sheds its burr with no special or very "prickly" manifestation when the kernel is ripe. I am tired of the essays that let no guilty author escape quotation.

I have been unhappy over the spectacle of celebrities—men of genius—converted into club women while being entertained as guests of honor.

You must pardon a club reporter if she hasn't much sympathy with theories. She has to practice so much, and she is often so tired that she cannot understand how anybody can even contemplate the doing of anything that involves labor not absolutely necessary to the support of life. She may be pardoned if she sometimes wonders why you haven't learned the restfulness of silence, and, paradoxical though it may seem, why you don't more quickly learn the value of open discussion—if she wonders why you are afraid of each other, and why you are so seldom gay—if she sometimes thinks that you glory in achievement without regard to the value of the achievement.

But whether I have been able to discover that women are happier, honester or more content, better cooks, or more agreeable companions, I will concede that I have watched the evolution of the timid, shrinking woman, who has been snubbed first by her father and brothers and later by her husband, and have rejoiced to see her spread her wings and soar in the sky of appreciation. And I have watched the involution of the woman accustomed to the flattery of an over-fond mother and foolish sisters and have rejoiced to see her get the dust rubbed off her wings—for it was artificial dust, not the real black and gold and pink. But I have not been permitted to tell about her. You took your chances on me. I have sometimes referred to women's clubs as "a body of women banded together for the purpose of meeting together." A reporter, you know, comes in contact with all classes of people and in touch with all sorts of measures for public improvement. Is it her fault alone, I wonder, if she sometimes fails to grasp "the significance of the club movement"?

The Woman's Manual of Parliamentary Law sent to any address for 75 cents.

THE CLUB WOMAN'S HUSBAND.

By Jennie Terrill Ruprecht.

MY wife belongs to all the clubs
That ever vexed a nation;
Such clubs as women organize
To stir up all creation.

And if I venture just a word,
She says with agitation,
"Peter, put off your dull remarks
Till after my ovation.
I'm gaining prestige every day,
My name is in the 'paper,'
I shall be President ere long,
If you don't act the ape, Sir."

Reforms outside so take her time
She can't sew on a button,
Nor teach poor Bridget how to cook
A leg of ancient mutton.
And if I ask her if she won't
At least give up Sorosis,
"Keep out of my affairs," she says,
"Your meddlesome proboscis.
I'm gaining laurels every day,
So rapid my advance, Sir,
I shall be President ere long
If you don't spoil my chance, Sir."

"But, love," said I, "the baby's cross,
And Georgie's socks need darning";
"Rock her!" she cried, "and darn the socks
With yarn, while you are yarning!"
I sometimes think I'll take my babe,
And George, her little brother,
And leave my wife to club it out,
While I go home to mother.
For I am sure my wife will win,
And be a living wonder;
The President of all the clubs—
And I shall be snowed under!

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER.

OUR OPPORTUNITIES.

By Mrs. Mahlon D. Thatcher, Recent President Colorado Federation.

OUR club flower for Colorado—the native columbine—is symbolic in coloring of purity and Christianity combined. The peculiar azure and purple shading of the outer petals and the pure white of the inner ones were always used by the early peasants to represent the Christ, the Madonna and the Magdalene. The white and azure represent divinity, while the Magdalene appeared in purple robes. Does not our club flower, therefore, hint of our great need of the divine touch and a larger compassion for humanity?

In assigning the subjects for discussion at our State convention we chose "Industrial America." We fully realized that it would be impossible in the time of this, or many conventions, to give a description of all the branches of our industrial system, but we hoped by turning investigation into the main avenues of the field of labor to gain some comprehension of our strength and resources; of the degree of advance from the past to the present, as well as a suggestion of our possibilities in the future.

One of the many excellent papers given at the convention of the General Federation was in line with the topic and thought of this meeting. It was by Mrs. Candace Wheeler, so many years prominent in art circles for her application of art to industries. She made a strong plea for combined effort to bring out the latent talent and inventive genius of women, especially of those isolated ones in the small villages and farmhouses of America, stating quite eloquently their need not only of variety and attractiveness in their field of labor, but of the encouragement and financial benefit to them if only their efforts should be expended in more original ways, and to more practical needs and results than the crazy quilt and similar productions.

In European countries, weaving, knitting, wood carving and lace making were the product of spare hours. Mrs. Wheeler suggested that the Federation of Women's Clubs, which enters every state and is devoted to education, art and general progress, should be able to help those sisters of the farmhouse on the plain, or in the remote mountain districts, by suggesting ways and means to fill their days with attractive and useful work. Mrs. Wheeler thought if committees should be appointed in the different Federations to this end, much good to the individual and advance to our industries could be accomplished. It seems that we could give impulse to innate talent, and much pleasure in the home, if each club would send some magazine on art and industries, combined with literature, to some one or more localities in their neighborhood, and there would be much help and encouragement in such token of interest and remembrance. It helps us all to think some one cares for our well-being.

I chanced to meet an attractive woman in Mexico last spring who had done much for the improvement of the drawn-work industry there, and for the betterment of the condition of the workers.

She had been obliged to make her home in different portions of the Republic for fifteen years, because her husband had recovered his health and had established his business there. She had little to occupy her time, and feeling sympathy for the condition of the native women and admiration for their delicate work, she sought to direct and assist them to more practical results by procuring better materials, greater variety in designs, with more artistic combinations. She sent to the "States" for patterns and counselled greater neatness, more strength and perfection in the button-hole finish so generally used. Her patience and careful supervision in all these years have caused great improvement and increased demand for their dainty product.

We see in the work of our aboriginal people beautiful and useful articles, as the blankets and baskets of our Indian tribes, which are so interesting and so distinctive from the work of other countries. Surely the more trained mind and taste of our present generation should be able to evolve unique articles and industries.

I am convinced that the club movement is the greatest boon that has come to woman, because it includes the strongest elements for the development and progress of an intelligent people, namely: concentration of thought and co-operation for action, contagion of ideas and emulation in work and example. It is the natural outcome of this co-operative and scientific age, but like all good things in this world should be taken in moderation.

One may overtax the mental as well as the physical organism, when indigestion or nausea will result; only so much food as can be thoroughly assimilated should be taken.

With the present scope of work in each club the conscientious woman will hesitate to join more than one club, or possibly two, when the order of work is very different, as, for in-

stance, joining a musical club while belonging to a literary one; or if it should be a history club, associating one for parliamentary drill, or even the department club, in which the individual responsibility is small because of large membership.

A BUNDLE OF FRAGMENTS.

By Sarah E. Temple, late President of the Vermont Federation.

It seems almost an intrusion that I, who am not now president of anything, and have passed entirely out of the list of officers for whom this corner was intended, should occupy any space herein at this time. The responsibility, however, be upon the noble head of the editor who urges it, and not upon myself. Otherwise I could not be persuaded to attempt it. I have nothing strikingly original or new to communicate to the world of club women—would that I had—only some observations in general and fragments or crumbs of suggestions. Perhaps, however, these may come in very nicely at this time and serve to let us down easily and gradually from the exhaustive—not exhausting—articles of Miss Gaines, Miss Rowe and their partners who have occupied this corner since its inception. May, in fact, serve as a sort of "after dinner coffee," to be taken in small quantities, and may enable us the better to digest the weightier contents of those preceding articles, while wafting our thoughts away to other matters.

Miss Gaines publicly gave me, at the New Jersey Federation, the credit of being one of the most self-sacrificing women she had ever known, because, although just from Vermont, I had talked before the Federation for five minutes without once referring to Admiral George Dewey. Were it not for spoiling this reputation for not mentioning what others do, I would mention a certain notable gathering of last June in a western city which I was not able to attend. Echoes from this have been reaching my ears ever since from all directions, the loudest and most imperative of which have been the expressions of presidents as to the great value to them of the Presidents' meeting, and the great dissatisfaction at the meagre limitations of time put upon them there. This led me to see the need for a department somewhere in some accessible periodical, where these same officers could have unlimited time and opportunity for exchanging ideas, plans and methods. The Club Woman promptly stepped to the front with such a provision, to the delight of us all—for even privates can read what is printed there, and thus a larger circle be benefitted than would be by simply a presidents' meeting biennially.

This thought of one president being helped by learning what another has done or is doing leads me to tell how Utah club women exerted an influence all through southeastern Vermont, though they are probably unconscious of it. During my state official work in Vermont the circular of the Utah educational committee came into my hands. I found it very good indeed, and read it to our Brattleboro Club. Among other things which it mentioned was teaching the children of the public schools the words of our patriotic songs. This thought found lodgment in the minds of our evening session (and that same evening session constitutes a story by itself to be told later). They thought the suggestion of the Utah women worthy of being carried out in Vermont, and set to work to devise means for doing so. The first thought was to supply typewritten copies. The idea grew, however, and the plan enlarged until they had printed a little eighteen page booklet, having the flag in colors on the front accompanied by the words of the salute, and containing ten of the best patriotic songs. Eleven hundred of these booklets were distributed throughout Windham county schools, some sent to the

State Industrial School and the villages adjoining in New Hampshire and Massachusetts and six or seven dollars profit was turned into the club treasury, all because the Utah women had suggested this as a good line of work for the women in their own state to follow. We see here an influence extending over two thousand miles or more. Think of the good produced in the development of patriotism in the characters of so many children, the results of which cannot be computed! May not this account of what the little band of women in the Brattleboro evening session did encourage some other company of women to do similar work?

Sociological questions are claiming increased attention everywhere, and so many clubs and club women are asking how they can come into nearer touch with their sisters in the industrial walks of life that I cannot refrain from relating here how the Brattleboro Club unwittingly solved that problem before the question claimed such widespread attention.

The village of Brattleboro takes great pride in its fine class of citizens, having no saloons and almost no manufacturing aside from organs. The wage earners are of a very high class and are accorded the same respect as all other citizens. After the club had been formed a few months fourteen young women who were teachers, proofreaders, reporters, stenographers, and two or three married women, whose duties confined them at home during the day, sent in to the club to ask if they might join it and meet in the evening. They were accepted and the union has always been a happy one. During my presidency of the club I met with the regular club in its day meetings and again the following evening with this evening session, never missing a meeting. My successor, I think, is doing the same. I can frankly say I never enjoyed anything more. At first the members of the day session simply read their papers twice, first at the day session and then at the evening. That brought about a better acquaintance and all enjoyed it. After a short time, by assigning our subjects in the spring for the next winter, the members of our evening session were able to take full part in the program. There has never been cause for the slightest discount on their work. It has always been of the best. As each member has but one paper a year, she finds she can get excused from her duties one afternoon long enough to attend that meeting of the day session and read her paper, repeating it the next evening for the evening session. I heartily recommend this arrangement to many clubs. Is not this much better all around than that clubs act as patronesses for their employed sisters? Our evening session always had its representatives on the executive board, on all committees, and all business transacted in the day session was faithfully reported to them and received their complement of votes or voices. Our meetings were held once in two weeks, and our evening session was a cause for pardonable pride. The members gave one or two teas for the mothers of the kindergarten children and were highly successful. The song book project was also their work. The entire expense of publishing and distributing was more than met by the sale of advertising space on certain pages. When the evening session made their report and turned their money into the treasury they were heartily congratulated. May not these things be of help to other club women?

In planning for the Vermont Federation meeting this autumn I had hoped to have Mrs. Lowe as our guest, feeling sure that she would like to become familiar with the work and workers of the northern sections. By reference to the state year book I found that had the subject received attention a little earlier a tour covering almost all of the northern states might easily have been arranged. I simply mention the matter thinking it may perhaps be of value in the future. Beginning with

the last of September Maine held her annual Federation meeting. Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts followed in quick succession. This occupied the early part of October. Then soon after came New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, during the latter part of October; and early in November, Michigan, generally, and Wisconsin coming in the latter part of November. What an advantage it would have been to the new president and perhaps some of her cabinet and to the clubs as well if these State Federations could have arranged consecutive dates and all have had the pleasure of acquaintance with the new president and she with them.

(Mrs. Lowe made such a tour through the west, attending the Federation Council meeting in Omaha, where it was necessary for her to be the second week in October, and then coming on to the Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, New York and Georgia conventions, consecutively.—Editor.)

Again, a dear friend was going to Arizona to make her home. She had been a teacher and was afraid she would grow rusty mentally. I suggested she join a woman's club. I had nothing to consult but my copies of the Club Woman and Biennial proceedings; but alas! not a word about Arizona could I find, and the friend started on her long journey without knowing whether or not there was a solitary club woman in all that vast district. I might have written some of the Federation officers, but the time was short, and I regretted to trouble them. The complete list of state chairmen of correspondence in the last Club Woman is highly prized by at least one individual in this country, and will be carefully treasured.

WHAT IS SAID OF US.

Without any exception The Club Woman is the best club publication I have yet seen, and every woman interested in the work ought to have it. I recommend it everywhere among them that opportunity opens as the best national club paper extant. I contend that every club woman ought to have a national paper for broad lines of general work, and a state paper so to keep in touch with each other and their more closely allied work. Hence my desire to club with your paper for our state.—Mary Whedon, editor Western Womanhood.

The Club Woman has arrived, and reminds us of our own Kansas Sunflower, just now in all of its glory so bright and beautiful, always looking toward the sun, even though it towers above all other flowers. Indeed, having compared The Club Woman to the Kansas Sunflower, I might wish that it were as great a host in Kansas as is the State flower.—Jean Stuart Hamilton.

The President's Corner is to me the most valuable part of your paper. I read with great interest Miss Gaines' paper, and am anticipating much pleasure from reading Miss Rowe's and Mrs. Stacy's articles. Thanking you personally for the pleasure and profit you have given many women in the establishment of The Club Woman, I remain, Martha Burgess Jennings, President, Utah Federation.

It is an excellent magazine, one all club women should have, and indispensable in my work as state chairman. I have enjoyed reading the articles from the different states, and hope soon to let you and The Club Woman's readers hear from Montana.—Mrs. W. J. Christie, Butte, Montana.

I congratulate you upon the success you have scored in the publication of The Club Woman, and it is all deserved. It is indispensable to club women who wish to gain a broad outlook over club life.—Helen A. Whittier, president Middlesex Woman's Club of Lowell, Mass.

It is a fine paper and is doing much to keep the club work before the whole country. Enclosed please find one dollar.—Sarah S. Platt, Hotel Metropole, Denver, Colo.

THE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION DEPARTMENT.

Conducted by Mrs. Viola Price Franklin.

MR. Oscar Fay Adams, well known as a lecturer on artistic and literary topics in Boston and Cambridge, thus wisely soliloquizes for The Club Woman:

I have sometimes thought that however clearly defined the aims of women's clubs may be, as stated in their yearly schedules of subjects to be studied, the results of their work were very far from definite. If I am right in this, I should like to add by way of explanation that this want of definite result arises from the disposition to consider the acquisition of facts a thing desirable in itself, which it is not. Melissa may as well devote herself to picking up pebbles on the shore to all eternity as to reading up industriously the history or literature of any historic period, if after the latter performance she has no more to show for it than a collection of facts neatly put away and labelled in her mind. If she has done nothing with these facts but collected them merely, it were better that they were hanged about her neck, like a millstone, and that she were drowned in the midst of the sea of oblivion. Our minds were given us for ampler uses than merely to be employed in picking up facts. A fact is worthless unless one knows how to use it. Melissa may tell me with pride how much she has read and heard during her last year in the club, but if that is all she has to tell me, I shall conclude that she has never once used what she is pleased to call her mind, all the while.

Not till women's study clubs aim to do some thinking along with their study may we look for definite results from their work. When Octavia comes and tells me that within a certain period she has, let us say, attended a course of lectures on English Gothic and read whatever came in her way that bore nearly or remotely on the subject—and then goes on to show me that she understands pretty thoroughly how adequate an expression of national life in all its phases this architecture was, and then proceeds further to describe the bearing of the work of the past upon the present; when she does this, and I perceive she has not only collected facts but detected their relations to each other and their value and importance to the life of to-day, then, and not till then, am I moved to declare that her work in the woman's club has achieved a definite result, and to congratulate her on being able to think as well as to collect facts. And so of any subject which a club may elect to study. University Extension will aid us in becoming Octavias.

THE RELATION OF THE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION WORK TO THAT OF THE STUDY CLUBS.

When Benjamin Franklin, in addressing the little group of pale and hesitating patriots, gathered to discuss questions and make decisions which meant life or death to themselves and to the new republic, exclaimed: "Gentlemen, we must all hang together or we shall all hang—separately," he touched in one witty sentence the conditions of success and of failure in all departments of life. Co-operation is the watchword of success. We must succeed together, or we must fail separately.

Co-operation—the principle prevails everywhere—in government, in business, in society, in domestic life. The republic, the great political co-operation, has taken the place of the monarchy, great monopolists have succeeded the small individual business enterprises, the mammoth department store has absorbed the little retail shop, the city bakery has assumed the work of the kitchen oven. Everywhere, and more and more, this principle is asserting itself. Society is becoming a great organism, and the eye can no longer say to the hand, "I have

no need of thee." Nothing seems to be able to succeed now until it has persuaded something else to co-operate with it in its work, and to share in its success.

There are among us two great educational forces, both of which are somewhat new to life, both of which are vigorous and healthy, both of which are looking out upon life with hopeful gaze, and planning for success and prosperity. They have exactly the same aim, and are looking for the same success, and it seems that in no way could that success be better assured to them than by their adopting this principle of co-operation, and "hanging together" in their work. These two forces are the literary and study clubs of the country, and the university extension department of the universities.

The study club, I take it, has two "objects in life." First, it wishes to enlarge and clear the intellectual vision of its individual members, to give to them added knowledge, breadth of view, culture. Second, to contribute to the intellectual, aesthetic and ethical uplift of the whole country. The second object, though indirect, is a most important one, and is consciously recognized as such, in most cases, by the club members. In both these aims the university extension work seems to co-operate with and aid the study club.

First, on the side of the culture of individual members. The methods of work in the study club are rapidly changing. The time was (and it was not so long ago, either) when clubs formed their programs in a happy-go-lucky fashion from week to week, and members discussed parliamentary law at one meeting, the Canterbury Tales at the next, and the principles of the culinary art at a third, in cheerful unconsciousness of the fact that there was any lack of continuity in their work.

But the time for that kind of work has gone by. Clubs are beginning to give a great deal of attention to the program, to arrange it and assign work weeks or even months in advance, to plan that each year's work shall be one continuous whole, and each meeting, each paper and each discussion shall fit into its own niche and serve as an organic part of the whole. They are planning for more and more continuous work. And along with this desire for more careful and student-like work has come another demand—that for competent and inspiring leaders. It is this demand which University Extension is attempting to supply.

The larger universities have a corps of competent, thoroughly trained specialists in each department, who stand ready to furnish to study clubs just this scientific, scholarly leadership for which they are asking. Suppose, for instance, a club decides that for next year it wishes to study Political Economy or Sociology. It has abundance of books, or can get them, but it knows not how to select from them nor how to arrange its selections. It does not know what points are principal, what subordinate—which are necessary to a clear and comprehensive general knowledge of the subject, which are minor and important only to specialists. Now comes the university, and proposes to furnish through its extension department a leader who will in a course of lectures, or, perhaps, in a correspondence course, put before the members of the club the important and fundamental principles of the subject, who will furnish outlines for individual study, and suggest books and periodicals where the best and latest knowledge on the subject may be found, and who will in this way give to the clubs this much-needed general direction of their work.

The University Extension department does not propose to give a college course in a series of six lectures, or a correspondence course of twenty-four lessons. It realizes its own limitations; but it does propose to give, through its various means—lecturer, outlines, books,—a much-needed direction to the efforts of those who are seeking a clear and comprehensive

general view of the subject it treats. It does not claim that its work is exhaustive—it does claim that it is not necessarily superficial.

ELLA ADAMS MOORE,

Associate in English, University of Chicago.

Note:

[Mrs. Moore will take up in a later issue the subject of the co-operation of the University Extension with the study club in its second aim, that of benefitting the community about it.]

EXTENSION NEWS.

The widespread interest in university extension is shown by the fact that letters of inquiry have been received from New York, Alabama, Kansas, Nebraska, and Oregon.

Mrs. N. S. Clark, the progressive president of the Frances M. Ford Club of Stromsburg, Nebraska, recently visited the State University to make arrangements for an university extension course for her club. It is expected that Prof. Fossler of the German department will open the course with his illustrated lecture on "The Niebelungen Lied."

The history department of the Colonia Club, Brooklyn, is pursuing a course in "English History of the Victorian Period," outlined by the writer. Mrs. Frances C. Buckley, the chairman, writes: "It is very satisfactory. I like your suggestion."

As we go to press an interesting letter of inquiry, in regard to correspondence study work, comes from Mrs. R. M. Fee of Pendleton, Oregon.

Will not the state chairman of correspondence, or the state presidents, be kind enough to send to this department definite information as to the number of clubs in their respective states taking university extension courses, and as to the nature of the courses? Address all questions relating to the work of this department to Mrs. Viola Price Franklin, State University, Lincoln, Neb.

Every club woman who was at the first Biennial of the Federation in Chicago, will remember Mrs. Micah Dyer, Jr., and her story of the broom.

She had been called upon to speak upon some club topic, when, just as her time limit was up, she said: "This reminds me of a little story," and then the fatal bell struck; she obeyed its orders and took her seat at the back of the platform. It was some moments before she noticed that the room was echoing with applause, and that the audience, like Oliver Twist, was clamoring for more.

"You will have to tell your story," Mrs. Brown said. And Mrs. Dyer went to the front.

"When I was a young girl," she said, "I wanted to learn how to do all kinds of work. My mother didn't want to bother with me, but I insisted upon it. So one day she set me to sweeping a room. I went to work in the hardest way possible and stirred up a great cloud of dust. By and by she looked in upon me, and said:

"Julia, don't you see that you are only making work for yourself? You are standing in front of your broom."

"I have often thought of that since. How often we get in front of our brooms and impede the progress of the very thing we are trying to advance. And so I wanted to say to the club women here, if you want to be of service and to do good clean work, 'don't stand in front of your broom.'"

If you have lectures which you want to place before Women's Clubs it will pay you to advertise in our columns. Send for our special rates to lecturers.

General Federation of Women's Clubs.

LIST OF OFFICERS:

President, MRS. WILLIAM B. LOWE, 513 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Ga.	Recording Secretary, MRS. EMMA A. FOX, 21 Bagley Avenue, Detroit, Mich.	Treasurer, MRS. PHILIP N. MOORE, 1520 Mississippi Avenue, St. Louis, Mo.
Vice-President, MRS. SARAH S. PLATT, Hotel Metropole, Denver, Colo.	Corresponding Secretary, MRS. G. W. KENDRICK, Jr., 3507 Baring Street, Philadelphia, Pa.	Auditor, MRS. C. P. BARNES, 1026 3rd Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky.

THE GENERAL FEDERATION.

The meeting of the Council at Omaha, October 11, 12 and 13, was attended by the president, Mrs. Rebecca Douglas Lowe, Atlanta; Mrs. Sarah S. Platt of Denver, vice-president; Mrs. Emma A. Fox, recording secretary; Mrs. George W. Kendrick, Jr., corresponding secretary; Mrs. Philip N. Moore, treasurer, and Mrs. E. L. Buchwalter, Mrs. Francis A. Eastman, Mrs. Frances M. Ford, Mrs. C. S. Kinney, Mrs. Mary S. Lockwood, Mrs. Charles S. Morris and Mrs. James H. Windsor, directors. Mrs. Lowe spoke briefly of the importance of the trust which has been committed to the officers of the G. F. W. C. and urged the members of the board to discuss freely all questions pertaining to the business of the Federation.

Invitations from Chautauqua and Los Angeles were received for the next Biennial, but that from Milwaukee, presented at Denver last June, was accepted, and Mrs. Buchwalter, Mrs. Platt and Mrs. Kendrick were appointed program committee for 1900.

A committee was appointed to confer with the Association of Collegiate Alumnae at their meeting in Philadelphia last October.

Mrs. Platt, Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Morris were appointed a committee to define the duties of the state chairmen of correspondence.

Mrs. Herman J. Hall of the Arche Club of Chicago was made chairman of the art committee.

The Corning Culture Club of Iowa (from whom we have received a beautiful year's calendar) was admitted to the General Federation.

The Board attended a meeting on Wednesday of the Trans-Mississippi Woman's Congress at the Exposition grounds, at which time President McKinley made a brief address. The entire Board were guests of honor at the reception Thursday evening given by the Omaha Woman's Club to the women attending the National Congress of Mothers, the Nebraska State Federation and the National Association of Household Economics.

The following additions to the list of State Chairmen published in November should be made:

Tennessee—Mrs. Mary L. Beecher, Memphis.

Delaware—Mrs. Horace Betts, 1006 Madison street, Wilmington.

Washington—Mrs. Eva W. Gove, 815 North 8th street, Tacoma.

Minnesota—Mrs. W. B. Leach, 1341 Vine Place, Minneapolis.

New York—Miss Anna Maxwell Jones, 222 West 23rd street, New York City.

STATE FEDERATION NEWS.

NEW YORK.

Decked with flowers and gay with the Federation colors, green and white, Mendelssohn Hall in New York City was packed to its utmost capacity during the four days' convention, Nov. 1st to 5th, of the New York Federation. Eight hundred delegates were present from 192 affiliated clubs, and Mrs. Fannie I. Helmuth, the president, presided with great tact and justice, solving one or two knotty problems that once threatened to ruffle the harmony of the proceedings, with dignity and good sense. The sessions were held in the morning and afternoon, the evenings being devoted to social reunions. During the whole time the weather was perfect.

The morning session was opened by the Rev. Phebe A. Hanaford, who offered an impressive and beautiful prayer, and then the address of welcome was made by Mrs. Dimies T. S. Denison, the president of Sorosis. This was Mrs. Denison's first address since her election to the presidency of New York's great woman's club, and particular attention was given to all she said. She spoke in a clear, resonant voice that was pleasing as well as distinct, and the applause that interspersed her bright and happy words of welcome showed how the Federation appreciated her.

Mrs. Helmuth then delivered her annual address, which is quoted elsewhere in these pages.

The remainder of the morning was filled with the reports of the various officers of the convention. Mrs. Lowe of Atlanta, president of the General Federation, was on the platform at the opening, and later in the day greeted the Federation in her new role. Two other members of the General Federation board of officers were also present during many of the meetings. These were Mrs. Philip N. Moore of St. Louis and Mrs. C. P. Barnes of Louisville, Kentucky. Both ladies greeted the convention, and were in turn most cordially received.

One of the most important departments of the afternoon program was that devoted to education, Mrs. Amelia K. Wing, chairman. Great effort had been made to secure speakers who "know whereof they speak;" not theorists, not enthusiasts only, who "hope all things," but women whose personal experience and knowledge have led them to prove all things, whose testimony bears the weight of authority.

Those who took part in the discussion were Mrs. Alice A. Chadwick of the Froebel Society of Brooklyn; Mrs. James Monroe Edsell of the Writers' Club, New Utrecht; Dr. Elizabeth Jarrett, Mrs. Lewis Bigelow of Rochester, Miss A. D. Kitchell of the Westchester Woman's Club, Mount Vernon; Miss Helen M. Backus, president of the Brooklyn Woman's Club; Mrs. Louis A. Worl of Buffalo, Miss Edith Walker Campbell of Buffalo, Miss Seniel of New York, and Miss Jennie B. Merrill.

At 4.30 o'clock the discussion on "Free Libraries," Mrs. C.

O. H. Craigie, chairman, was resumed. Among those taking part were Mrs. Hamilton Ward of Alleghany county, Mrs. Frank Doubleday of Bay Ridge, Miss Myrtilla Avery of Albany, Miss Plummer of Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, and Miss Adelaide Hasse of the Astor Library, New York.

A reception to the delegates was given in the evening at the Hotel Majestic, and the house was filled with a crowd of happy club women and their friends.

Miss Eliza McDonald was the presiding officer for the morning session of November 2. In the absence of Mrs. Chauncey Parsons, chairman on the literature discussion, Miss Annie Rhodes read the paper contributed by that officer. The principle embodied was that philanthropy consumes so large a share of the attention of people now that there is little time left for literary work, and what is done is often an expression of selfishness. On the other hand, literary clubs are found to be broadening in their effects. The speakers on this subject then proceeded with the discussion. They included Mrs. Higbee of the Jamaica Woman's Club, Miss Julia Kempshall of the Brooklyn Prospect Club, Mrs. John Lewis Childs of the Hempstead Woman's Club, Mrs. Peet of Phalo, Mrs. Charles R. Yardley of Sorosis, Mrs. Washington Roebling and others.

The subject of philanthropy and the establishment of a training school for wayward girls was introduced by Mrs. Clarence Burns, who read a letter from Mrs. Croly urging that girls from twelve to eighteen be given a training that shall make their self-support an assured thing. "If clubwomen would visit the sweatshops," Mrs. Burns said, "they would cease to talk about altruistic or literary clubs. If women want to work, they ought to do something that is worth while."

Letters were read from Judge Pryor, Judge Olcott and Dr. James P. Heany, and Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth, commending the movement for establishing a training school. Mrs. Emma F. Pettingill of Brooklyn, Mrs. W. J. Humphreys of Warsaw, Mrs. A. S. Goodridge of Flushing, Mrs. Charles F. Kingsley of Buffalo, Mrs. Walter Barron of Brooklyn, Mrs. M. G. Gouinlock of Warsaw, Rev. Phoebe Hanaford, Mrs. Mary A. Newton and others spoke wisely on this topic.

Civics and Village Improvement were introduced by the chairman of the committee, Mrs. Ralph Trautmann. She recapitulated the achievements of the New York Health Protective Association, taken up fourteen years ago, when men were too busy to see that steps were taken to guard the health of the community by insuring proper sanitation. She was followed by Mrs. James Scrimgeour of Brooklyn, Mrs. James Walker of New Brighton, and Mrs. Robert McVicar.

Mrs. Jacob Hess entertained the officers and chairmen of committees at luncheon in her home, No. 68 West Sixty-eighth Street. About forty women were present. They had been invited especially to meet Mrs. Lowe of Atlanta, Mrs. Helmuth and Mrs. Barnes.

Mrs. Helmuth presided at the afternoon session, when Art, the first subject, was pleasingly presented by the chairman, Mrs. Charles M. Dow, who said that while we have no distinctive national art at present, we have the seeds of all arts, which will surpass all others with proper training. The discussion was limited to five minutes each.

The first speaker on the discussion was Mrs. A. P. Crouse of Syracuse, who read an admirable paper on "The Possibility of a National Architecture." She was followed by several speakers and then Mrs. Florence Cory, who was chairman of "Industrial Arts," presented her topic in a thoroughly practical fashion, explaining how a woman with intelligent taste and good training can find remunerative employment and equal pay with men designers. The "Artistic Side of Industrial Art" was taken up by Mrs. Izora C. Chandler of New York.

An interim of a half hour was allowed for important business,

and after a few motions were considered, Mrs. Silsby, in behalf of the Audubon Society, made an earnest plea for the preservation of the birds, and Mrs. R. Trautmann and Miss Annie Rhodes explained the work of the war relief associations.

The discussion on "Alumnae Associations" was introduced in a graceful manner by Mrs. J. De La M. Lozier, who called on Mrs. Zabriskie of Brooklyn to speak on "The True Relation Between Alumnae Associations and the Alma Mater." Other speakers followed on this topic, and Mrs. Russell Sage made the shortest speech of the day, explaining how the Emma Willard Association came to join the Federation, and closed by saying: "We do only two things: We worship Emma Willard and love one another."

The discussion of parliamentary law was conducted by Miss Annie Rhodes, as chairman, and instead of formal papers she had a real discussion on the topic, "Is a Knowledge of Parliamentary Law Essential for the Avocations of Women?"

Miss Anna Maxwell Jones and Mrs. Janvier Le Duc were on the affirmative side, and Mrs. Cora Wells Trow and Mrs. Ellen M. Harris took the negative. Miss Jones claimed that the chief avocations of women were the nursery, the home and society, all of which would be benefited "if Roberts' Rules of Order should be enforced." Mrs. Edward Addison Greeley summed up the debate in favor of the affirmative.

An evening reception was tendered by Mrs. William Tod Helmuth at the Hotel Bristol, Fifth Avenue and Forty-second Street, to the officers and delegates of the convention. Over four hundred women attended. A delightful buffet supper was provided, with all the delicacies of the season. Mrs. Helmuth, magnificently gowned, was, as usual, most charming, sustaining her reputation as one of the most tactful women in the association.

The next morning Mrs. Mary H. Willard, chairman of the Trained Nurses' Association, paved the way for the discussion on "Trained Nurses" by reading a series of resolutions:

Resolved, That it would be an advantage to establish a uniform course of study in all training schools for nurses, and that a higher type of womanhood should be demanded in the candidates accepted for training.

Resolved, That in no way can a sum of money be better expended for the sick poor than through the Diet Kitchen Associations.

Resolved, That proper diet is more essential to the sick than professional nursing.

The discussion which followed was animated, and brought forth arguments relative to the duties and position of the trained nurse from several prominent women. At the close Mrs. Willard thanked her constituency for their cordial support and extended a cordial invitation to delegates and friends to take tea at the clubhouse and see how the nurses live. Mrs. E. D. Martin also took the opportunity to invite visitors to the settlement in Hell's Kitchen, No. 463 West Thirty-second Street, to see what the nurses of the city are doing for charity.

The discussion of "Travel" was introduced by Miss Anne Beaton, chairman on Travellers' Clubs, the main question being whether or not foreign travel is desirable.

"Travel," said Miss Beaton, "is prescribed for everything—for nervous prostration, for a broken heart, or for stupidity. All you can get out of it, however, is what you bring to it. The best things in the world are free." Miss Anne Maxwell Jones, member of the Travels at Home Club of Saratoga, Mrs. Ostrom, Mrs. Lillie Devereux Blake and others followed her.

Mrs. J. H. Burtis, chairman of the discussion on Hospitals and Medical Schools, was followed by Mrs. Russell Sage, governor of the New York Hospital for Women, on hospital management, emphasizing the need of confidence in the financial and public management and in medical skill, in order to obtain the

best results. Dr. Harriet C. Keating, Dr. Jennie V. H. Baker, Dr. Carroll and Dr. Thomas were other speakers.

After the morning session over five hundred delegates went to take luncheon with Mrs. Washington A. Roebling at Delmonico's, where Mrs. William Tod Helmuth was the guest of honor.

Promptly at 2 o'clock Mrs. Helmuth called the afternoon session to order. Mrs. Edward A. Greeley, chairman of the discussion on women in law, introduced as the first speaker Miss Martha Elvira Pettus, who spoke on "Woman's Intuition Compared with Some Maxims in Equity Jurisprudence." Mrs. Anna Shepard Pierce, a member of the New York Bar, spoke on the question, "Does Legislation Control Morals?" Mrs. Fannie Hallock Carpenter, another member of the New York Bar, condensed much in her short paper on "Some Inconsistencies of the Laws Affecting Women." Mrs. Frances Harding Hiss and Mrs. Miriam Mason Greeley were other speakers on this subject.

The discussion on music opened with an introduction by the chairman, Mrs. Theodore Sutro, on the subject, "How Best Can the Standard of Music in the United States Be Improved?" Mrs. Sutro said in part: "The fact that the Federation has for the first time placed music on the platform with the other branches of learning is a long step forward, and a source of congratulation to musicians." Mrs. Laura A. Korn, as an American composer, spoke in regard to studying music at home, and in behalf of music for the education of children Miss Emmie Simis of Brooklyn spoke.

Mrs. M. R. Silsby was the chairman of the discussion of Shakespeare clubs. She read an interesting paper in which she reminded the audience that the first Shakespeare Society in America was started by the ill-fated Major Andre in 1779 in New York city, and she urged students to make the great bard the companion of their quiet hours. Mrs. Anna Randall Diehl gave much valuable advice in the poet's own language, adapting sentences to the occasion with great happiness.

Mrs. Edward Kidder opened the discussion on the drama—Mrs. Brown of Brooklyn, chairman—by asking: "Does not the immorality of society create that of the stage?" Miss Mary Shaw was introduced, but asked to be allowed to speak on another subject, viz., "The Establishment of a National Theatre in America." Mrs. Sidney Rosenfeld, Mrs. Edwin Knowles and Mrs. A. M. Palmer were other speakers on the drama. Mrs. Palmer declared that her advice to a girl going on the stage would depend on the kind of girl who asked advice. The life is as a girl makes it and has the moral strength to live up to it. To such girls I would say there is no good reason why you should not become an actress.

In the evening a brilliant musical was given at Hotel Majestic, under the direction of Mrs. Jacob Hess.

Friday morning the first subject for discussion was "The Press." Mrs. Robert Fulton, the chairman, presented the topic under two heads, "The Influence of Woman as a War Correspondent," and "How to Acquire Style as a Press Writer."

"Political Study" was the second subject considered, and Mrs. Noah Chapman of Brooklyn, the chairman, opened the discussion by saying good government was second only to the spiritual welfare of the country. This topic was discussed from the ethical, the commercial and the woman's side. Mrs. Lockwood of the Urban Club of Brooklyn, spoke earnestly on the ethical portion of the subject. Mrs. Rogers of the Single Tax Club of Brooklyn treated the commercial side of the question from an economic standpoint. Mrs. Lillie Devereux Blake began her remarks facetiously by saying men were usurping the rights of women. One had died from tight lacing, another had been arrested as a common scold and still another had arrayed himself in female attire to make money. This discussion was

extremely interesting all through, and many of New York's most prominent women participated in it.

In the afternoon the discussion on "The Benefits of Federation" was introduced by the chairman, Mrs. Cora W. Trow, who spoke in part as follows: In reading the State reports given at Denver we are struck with the impetus Federation has given to all branches of public education, civic associations, household economics, health protective, consumers' league and civil service reform. Several Federations have gained important privileges for the women of their State, noticeably in Arkansas, where, through the efforts of the State Federation, the right of suffrage on all educational matters has been given to the women of the State. Georgia reports the establishment of reading clubs among the women of the rural districts. Alabama is working to establish a State reformatory for youthful criminals, Colorado works to preserve the historic remains of the cliff dwellers, and Utah is trying to introduce the savings bank system into the public schools. The State of Washington distributes reading matter to women living on isolated farms, and New Jersey is making a brave and determined effort to awaken the public conscience on the question of the destruction of the Palisades. Mrs. Martha Gay of the Westchester Woman's Club considered the question, "Do You Consider It an Advantage to Belong to the New York State Federation of Women's Clubs?" There were several speakers, and Miss Anne Rhodes made an able summing up at the close of the discussion.

At the close the new board of officers were announced and several resolutions and recommendations were adopted. The convention throughout was admirably conducted and brilliantly stimulating and inspiring. Following are the officers for the coming year: President, Mrs. William Tod Helmuth, New York; first vice-president, Mrs. Cornelia Zabriskie, Brooklyn, N. Y.; second vice-president, Mrs. Harry Hastings; recording secretary, Mrs. Frank B. Church, Wellsville, N. Y.; corresponding secretary, Miss Anne Rhodes, Staten Island; treasurer, Mrs. Milton Northrup; executive board, Miss Marion Carpenter, Ilion, N. Y.; Mrs. M. E. Trautmann, New York; Mrs. W. C. Gouinlock, Warsaw, N. Y.; Mrs. Mary T. Leavenworth, Syracuse, N. Y.; Mrs. William Eastwood, Rochester, N. Y.; Mrs. Caroline Dennis, Auburn, N. Y.; Rev. Phoebe A. Hanaford, New York, and Mrs. Henry Altman of Buffalo.

NEW JERSEY.

The New Jersey Federation met in Elizabeth October 27 and 28, and there were crowded into the four sessions many excellent things which will serve as suggestive topics and thoughts for the clubs for many months to come. Sociology was the keynote of the meeting, and it was heard again and again as the many speakers told of their work and their theories, or expounded to the women how they in their clubs could make these ideas a telling force in the life of the world.

The meetings were held in Elizabeth by invitation of its many clubs and those of the adjacent city of Rahway. The whole affair was under the supervision of Mrs. Emily E. Williamson, as chairman of the committee.

Business occupied the morning sessions, while the afternoons were filled by speakers on the general topic, each a specialist in her own way. The meetings were held in the First Baptist Church. Out of the 166 delegates and officers included in the representation of the State Federation there were 145 present, only three clubs out of the entire seventy-four being without representation during the meetings. The meeting on Thursday morning was called to order promptly by Miss Gaines, the president, and prayer was offered by Mrs. Julia Ward Howe. Mrs. Clarence W. Buttler, recording secretary, read the minutes of the last annual meeting, held in Camden, and also gave a most in-

teresting account of the meeting held in Plainfield last spring.

Mrs. Buttler was followed by the corresponding secretary, Miss Ada D. Fuller, who read a report giving the number of clubs in the Federation and some idea of their various plans of work. She reported seventy-four clubs in active membership, with a representation of fully 4500 women, with three more clubs knocking at the door for admission. Six clubs joined from 1896 to 1897, and seven from 1897 to 1898, which, with the three to join at this meeting, made a total of sixteen added to the roll during the last two years. The secretary then spoke of the different purposes of the clubs, many being purely literary, and several limited in membership, while, again, the Federation had among its membership large department clubs, with all their great opportunities for good work. She mentioned also the good work done by the clubs in education, telling of the many free kindergartens and circulating libraries maintained and started by the women's clubs of the state, adding: A survey of the year books of our many clubs for the current year is indeed gratifying. They tell us that the work is being more and more concentrated, a broader view of things is being taken, and the question, "Whither are we tending?" is being asked in many different ways. Many clubs are giving thought to the real condition of things; they are looking into the lives of those people whom Kingsley says, "We are apt to call 'brethren' on Sundays, and speak of as 'the masses' all the rest of the week," but who none the less are a great factor in our society and a large part of our educational problem.

Mrs. E. E. Williamson spoke in behalf of the clubs of Elizabeth. She told briefly of the work the women had done to make the meeting successful, and said: "I extend to you a hearty welcome from the women of Elizabeth. Our club interest is large, we are club women in the best sense, and we are glad to live in Elizabeth and have this opportunity of greeting you all." Mrs. Joseph A. McClary, one of the vice-presidents of the Federation and a prominent club woman of Rahway, then welcomed the guests in the name of the Rahway clubs, and Mayor Mack of Elizabeth spoke of the work the women are doing in his city and the work they are accomplishing all over the world, closing by saying: "I welcome you to Elizabeth, and as Mayor of the city I give you the freedom of the city." The Mayor was heartily applauded, and was the only man to speak at the convention. A bright response was made for the clubs by their much-loved president, Miss Gaines.

Both days the Federation was fortunate in having as special guests many women prominent both in club circles and in wider fields of action. Mrs. Julia Ward Howe was the first to greet the women. She spoke of the long years she had witnessed the growth of woman's power, and how gradually it had expanded and developed, so that now there was no field of education or work, no profession or industry which she could not try. Mrs. Howe said one of the great pleasures and compensations in growing old was in seeing the dreams of one's youth realized and made a part of the life of the coming generations. Mrs. Howe is in her eightieth year, and as she stood before that audience last Thursday she was as much abreast of the times and as capable of appreciating and taking part in any discussion or subject to be spoken of as any woman there. Her presence and her personality made one of the pleasantest features of the session. A little later in the day she recited the "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

Among the other guests to greet the Federation was Mrs. Temple, who for two years has been the president of the Vermont Federation; Miss Dock, a young woman greatly interested in the preservation of the forests in our country; Rev. Antoinette Brown-Blackwell and Mrs. Washington Roebling, the secretary of the George Washington Memorial Association, who told of the work of her society.

On Thursday afternoon, immediately after luncheon, the president delivered her annual address. She said:

"Two years ago you elected me to fill the highest office in this Federation, and the time has now come for me to render an account of my stewardship."

She reported many new members during the last two years, over sixteen hundred women having been added to the Federation in that time. She then spoke of the good work of the departments in the organization, and thanked the clubs one and all for the courtesy and hospitality given her during the term she had held office. The members of the executive board were also thanked for their practical assistance and sympathetic support in all that had been planned and carried out. Passing from the records of the State work to a discussion of the topic chosen for the meeting, Miss Gaines said: "As to sociology, we do not investigate these questions enough—it is so much easier to avoid them. The yawning chasm between capital and labor is growing wider, and women are particularly concerned in all these social problems."

She spoke of the great power women have in moulding public opinion, and how that power was being more and more understood and enlarged. She deplored the lack of knowledge on many of these subjects, and the more dangerous lack of interest by so many, saying that every woman should make it her business to ascertain how the ready-made garments she bought were made, and not buy nor wear them if made under conditions which meant starvation to the poor women who earned their living by sewing. She deplored the lack of great choral unions in our country and quoted the amount of patriotism and enthusiasm which had been forced to remain bottled up in the breasts of so many American citizens these last few months on account of a lack of knowledge of either the music or words of our national songs, and suggested the giving of prizes to school children who could recite at least three of these songs throughout.

Miss Gaines referred many times to the unifying power of woman's work, and asked all to interest themselves in the great questions of the day, closing by saying that she believed the woman's club to be a great step toward an ideal society, when men and women shall work and stand side by side in club life, and we shall have one standard of intellectual and moral life. "For if New Jersey were what the club woman would make it, it would be an ideal place." Mrs. John Alden next spoke of the philanthropic work done by the press. A word regarding The Tribune Sunshine Society was said, for New Jersey has many members in this guild of good work.

Miss Mary McKeen, the chairman of the Kindergarten Department, and a woman who has done much good work in the State toward having the kindergarten system made a part of all our public schools, through legislation, then spoke on "The Kindergarten as a Factor in Civilization," expounding many of Froebel's rules and his great belief in "learning by doing."

The musical part of the sessions was one of the most delightful features of the program, and much credit is due to the women in Elizabeth who had charge of it.

One of the most interesting topics on the program was "The Labor Problem as It Affects Women and Children." This was responded to by Mrs. Martha Moore Avery.

Another interesting feature of Thursday afternoon was a paper by Dr. M. F. De Hart, on the "Duty Women Owe the Race." Mrs. De Hart is a practising physician of many years' experience, and she spoke from a full heart and knowledge.

The delegates were entertained at dinner at the homes of the Elizabeth women, and the evening of Thursday was spent in the most enjoyable manner at the palatial home of Mrs. Emily E. Williamson, the efficient chairman of arrangements. Mrs. Williamson was assisted in receiving fully a thousand guests

by Miss Gaines, the State president, and several of the delegates of Elizabeth. One of the pleasing things of the evening was the presence of Julia Ward Howe and the Rev. Mrs. Blackwell, both of whom held small receptions by themselves, every one being anxious to clasp Mrs. Howe's hand.

The second day's session was one of particular interest, for the election of new officers took place in the morning of that day. Although there was a good deal of electioneering done before the meeting, the utmost good feeling prevailed. The delegates sent by the convention to Denver reported their impression of the Biennial at this session, Mrs. Craven, Mrs. Yardley, Mrs. Miller and Miss Gaines speaking of the trip West. The following resolution was then offered and unanimously adopted by the Federation:

"Resolved, That the State Federation of Women's Clubs of New Jersey, through its Executive Board, cause to be presented to the next Legislature a bill authorizing the Governor to appoint a commission for the purpose of investigating the steps necessary for legal measures to be taken to prevent the widespread destruction of the Palisades now going on."

At the afternoon session the following new officers were declared elected: Mrs. E. E. Williamson of Elizabeth, president; Miss Vermilye of Englewood, first vice-president; Mrs. Kate B. Horton of Cranford, second vice-president; Mrs. F. J. Taylor of Newark, third vice-president; Mrs. F. W. Kitchel of Perth Amboy, fourth vice-president; Mrs. Minnie H. Magee of East Orange, corresponding secretary; Mrs. C. W. Butler of Montclair, recording secretary; Mrs. Joseph A. McClary of Rahway, treasurer; Mrs. J. Hartshorn of Short Hills, auditor. Directors for three years, Mrs. E. W. Newbury of Jersey City, Miss Belle Snyder of Caldwell, and Mrs. Florence Howe Hall of Plainfield.

Miss Gaines called the new officers to the platform, and introduced them in a few words, handing the gavel to Mrs. Williamson amid much clapping of hands and good feeling. The audience then rose and sang the Federation song, to the air of "America." The last number on the program was a lecture by Miss Kate S. Chittenden on the "Unifying Power of Music," which was beautifully illustrated by vocal selections by Miss Lucy Nelson of Jersey City, and Miss Wilhelmina O. Johnson of New York.

Votes of thanks were given to the women who had so kindly entertained the clubs and to the speakers, and then Mrs. Florence Howe Hall expressed the Federation's love for the president who had so ably served them for the last two years. Most of the delegates and visitors took late afternoon trains for their homes, and all expressed themselves as delighted with the entire meeting.

ADA DAVENPORT FULLER.

PENNSYLVANIA.

On November 2d and 3d, in the quaint little town of Chester, where William Penn first stepped on Pennsylvania soil, the Federation of women of that glorious old Commonwealth met for the third time to hold counsel with each other and to report mutual progress in the work which they have made their own. If the late October days of 1782 were as mellow and golden and glowing as the early November days of 1898, how the heart of Father Penn must have warmed at the sight of the fair country, the broad river and the fruitful land, which even as a wilderness announced its inexhaustible resources.

The founder of Pennsylvania remarked that it was a memorable day when the good ship *Welcome* brought him to the landing place at Upland; and stepping ashore, he turned to his friend Pearson and told him to rename the little settlement, and Pearson said, "It shall be Chester, for my native place." Chester—a stronghold, a fortified camp, well named, for here where English Quakers found their first resting place on Pennsylvania soil, after a weary voyage, the Quaker type and the Quaker tra-

ditions are still the most persistent and permanent. The State Federation of Pennsylvania Women is true to the ideals of the early builders of the colony. It is moderate, conservative, peaceful and splendidly poised; broad enough to take in every platform on which women's organizations stand, intelligent enough to grasp every problem presented for its elucidation, and prepared to discuss every topic presented for its consideration. So far in its short history of four years, the Federation has not departed from the standards of its founders, and in this it may set an example to the government and people in general. The individuality of the women who founded it and still guide its deliberations and actions, give it an unmistakable character, and long may it remain under such wise and discriminating influences.

The delegates who attended the meetings and enjoyed the ungrudging hospitality and unfailing courtesy of the men and women of Chester found the occasion of their first visit as memorable to them, possibly, as William Penn declared his to be, more than two hundred years ago; and in the quiet hours of retrospect they cannot but feel great satisfaction in their reminiscences of the dignified, quiet proceedings, the orderly transaction of business, the wise counsel, the encouraging reports, the suggestions and the hopes that marked the sessions of the congress. Sensationalism was markedly absent, and if that spectral bogie, the new woman, exists in Pennsylvania, she must have gone off in a body to attend Federation meetings in other states where she would be more appreciated, for she was neither seen nor heard in Chester. She is not congenial to the Quaker blood nor the Quaker atmosphere, and is entirely out of tune and touch with the spiritual legacy and calmness and conservatism which Penn has left to his children.

At the evening session on Tuesday, November first, Miss Elizabeth Rice, president of the New Century Club of Chester, the hostess of the Federation, welcomed the delegates to Chester, the oldest daughter of the Commonwealth, and contrasted the scene before her with one in colonial days, when a woman was arraigned on a charge of witchcraft. Miss Rice might have gone farther, and might have added that this, the only case of women being so accused in Pennsylvania, was brought before Penn, who dismissed the unfortunate victims of calumny and superstition with the paternal admonition to go home and live like good Christians; and this happened in an age when in Europe and in the other colonies witches were beaten, burned and dragged at the cart's tail. In her happiest manner, with clear and distinct utterance, and easy grace, Mrs. Horace Brock of Lebanon, president of the Federation, responded to Miss Rice's cordial welcome to the hearts and homes of the people of Chester. She alluded to the past work and future prospects of the organization, and to the new political conditions which have arisen during the year which has passed since the meeting at Harrisburg. In closing, she said: "Last year we stood alone as a nation in splendid isolation, content with administering our own affairs and glad it was so. But what a change a year has brought. A year ago we were horrified at the scenes in the middle of Africa and Armenia, but taking no part in the great question of civilization beyond our border; now we are upon the threshold of an epoch that sees us taking part in these great problems. While we may regret the passing of the old, yet the new is here, and surely Americans are not less competent in solving these problems than the other part of the Anglo-Saxon race.

"American governments may have and do have abuses, but the American people are right at heart and their voice has ever been the voice of righteousness and of God. 'Who knows,' as was said to a woman by a man in ancient time, 'but that thou comest to the kingdom for such a time as this.' Our women are realizing this. We are here to be helpmeets to our husbands and brothers in a larger sphere in wider fields. Women are go-

ing into the life of the nation to make for everything that is pure, good and ennobling. We are here to ask how we can help our country." Mrs. Brock closed by quoting the last lines of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," and took her seat amid great applause.

A musical program of rare excellence was then presented, the performers being from the Tuesday Musical Club of Pittsburgh, the Wednesday Club of Harrisburg and the New Century Club of Chester. The concert over, the audience adjourned to the Penn Club, where they were received by the gentlemen who form the house committee, and spent the remainder of a most delightful evening. Not the least of the pleasant memories we have brought back from Chester is that of the unfailing kindness and hospitality shown to all their guests by the gentlemen of the Penn Club.

The Wednesday morning session in the bright and roomy auditorium of the First Baptist Church was devoted to the hearing of reports. Mrs. Brock paid a well-earned tribute to the amount and the quality of the work done by Miss Jessie R. Little, the secretary of the Federation, whose remarkable ability, patience, and endurance are often put to a severe strain in the execution of her duties. She alluded to the growth of interest in civics, the now predominating feature in Pennsylvania club work. In regard to reciprocity she said: "As I have gone among the clubs I have been most gratified to find the spirit of reciprocity growing. Wherever I have been I have met representatives from neighboring clubs, the presidents and members of the large city clubs visiting the smaller organizations of their sisters in the country, and the country presidents frequently enjoy the hospitality of their sisters in the cities. This is one of the most important features in our Federation work, quite as helpful to the city clubs as it is to the country organizations, and I hope it will grow. That the intercourse between neighboring clubs will be cultivated in every way, I would recommend that sectional Federations be formed through the state, with the object of bringing the members of that section closer together, enabling the members who cannot attend the annual meeting to share many of its benefits, social and intellectual.

Miss Little's report was heard with great interest; she stated that: Whereas at the last convention the total number of the clubs in the Federation was only fifty-nine, there are today eighty-four organizations, and the membership during the year has increased from 7617 to 9186 women. In the Eastern District there are now forty clubs, having a membership of 6706, instead of thirty clubs with a membership of 5963. The Western District showed a growth from twenty-one to thirty clubs and of a growth in membership from 1415 to 1914. The Central District reported a growth from eight clubs to fourteen, and an increase of membership from 239 to 566. The report of the treasurer, Mrs. W. H. House of Pittsburgh, as read by Mrs. Armstrong, showed that the receipts for the year from all sources were \$498.85, and that after all expenses, including those of the present convention, had been paid, there would be a balance of nearly \$200. After the officers' reports were read and accepted the remaining time before the arrival of the luncheon hour was given up to hearing three minute reports from clubs, many of which were most interesting.

The afternoon meeting was presided over by Mrs. Cornelius Stevenson, chairman of the department of civics. Miss Mira Lloyd Dock of Harrisburg spoke at length on forestry. Miss Dock never fails to arouse enthusiasm, and was the most magnetic speaker before the Congress. She presents her subject in a most original and sparkling but always thoughtful manner, and in a beautiful spirit of devotion to her cause.

The Audubon Society was given a place in the civic program, Miss Harding speaking for Miss Robins, who had been announced to give a ten minute talk. Splendid speeches on

civic work were made by Miss Hallowell of the Philadelphia Board of Educational Control, Mrs. Meredith Bailey of the local school board, and Mrs. Kirkbride of the Philadelphia Civic Club, and Mrs. W. S. Stewart made one of the most useful contributions to the occasion in her paper, "How Can Clubs Co-operate with the Young Woman's Christian Association."

The civic afternoon was the most enjoyable and will probably be the most fruitful in good results of any meetings held in Chester.

On Thursday morning the revision of the Constitution and by-laws came up for discussion, and the manner in which the president and the delegates handled the business before them would have convinced the most stubborn doubter that Pennsylvania women at least are clear headed, expeditious and orderly in conducting affairs. Mrs. Brock ruled with the ability of an experienced parliamentarian, and the delegates made free use of their opportunities to speak. But words were not wasted, and the changes necessary to suit the growth and expansion of the Federation were quickly and amicably made, and the remainder of the session devoted to the most interesting of all Federation events, the three minute reports from clubs. On Thursday afternoon and evening the program consisted of papers and addresses and short discussions of questions which were of great interest to club women. Social events added much to the pleasure of the delegates in attendance at the meetings of the Federation. Quite a large party took advantage of the invitation to visit Roach's shipyard. On Wednesday evening Miss Mary B. Shaw gave a handsome reception, and on Thursday afternoon Mrs. J. Edwards Woodbridge was at home to the State Federation and its guests. A quiet strength of purpose and a restful harmony of action again marked the proceedings of the Convention of Women's Clubs in Pennsylvania, and gave bright promise of continued progress. The Twentieth Century Club of Pittsburgh will entertain the Federation next year.

JULIA MORGAN HARDING.

OHIO.

Does The Club Woman want to know how Ohio manages her State convention? It will be to the satisfaction of club women in Massachusetts to learn that we had to borrow from them to make it a success. Worse than that, for our boasted traditions, but better for our pleasure, we borrowed of the South and the far West. Miss Alice Freeman Palmer and Mrs. Ellen H. Richards of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology were the Eastern contributions to this most interesting convention. Mrs. Platt (who is all of Denver in herself, as the Biennial pilgrims of last summer will testify) came from the West, while Mrs. Rebecca Lowe, the General Federation president, who was to have brought the wider influence, was kept in Michigan, where she had been at the State convention, by a severe cold. Illinois contributed a bright and telling element in the person of Miss Bertha Damaris Knobe of the Chicago Inter-Ocean. So no one, I hope, will lay it to the customary Ohio attitude of self-complacency if I claim that the Ohio convention of 1898 was most bounteous intellectually and most inspiring.

Mrs. Roberts' presidential address was upon "The Club and Our Young Women," her keynote being Longfellow's line, "The world belongs to those who come the last." As if in response to this cry toward the daughters, there seemed to be an influx of young girls into the ranks of the convention. Club reports came in at the hands of women of twenty and twenty-five, while one school girl of twelve from Washington Court House testified to the helpfulness and inspiration of the "Minuet Club." This seems to prove the woman's club no longer exclusively a forcing house for the renewed youth of the middle-aged woman.

The report of the Library Extension Committee from Mrs. Buchwalter showed that three hundred and thirty-three traveling libraries have gone out from the state library in less than two years, a special appropriation of \$4000 a year for this purpose and an immediate prospect of pictures being added to increase their scope. No fee is required for the books, transportation only. In comparing the library conditions in Ohio and Massachusetts, Mrs. Buchwalter noted 2000 centers of 500 population and over in Ohio, and only 97 public libraries; while Massachusetts has only fourteen towns possessing no libraries. But the advance made in two short years in Ohio fully justifies Mrs. Buchwalter's optimistic statement: "What Massachusetts has done Ohio can do."

Thursday afternoon was devoted to shedding the light of the Federation upon the State University. The chapel was full to overflowing to hear President Canfield's address of welcome and a bright paper on "Woman's Clubs from a Reporter's Standpoint," by Mrs. Josephine Woodward of the Cincinnati Commercial-Tribune (published in this number). Mrs. Woodward was a trifle hard on clubs and took no pains to conceal it. That she spoke some truth was shown by the sympathetic things that I overheard said to her from the shelter of a large palm. Perhaps some club women are exclusive; perhaps they—we, are narrow. Whether club life is worth living or not depends upon the liver, and after all, the movement is such a good thing in itself that, just like the marriage state, it must endure having fun poked at it by way of compensation.

Thursday evening was like a bit of the Denver Biennial. And, by the way, there is said to be a fine in Ohio for mentioning the Denver Biennial; but I will let it stand, for this is the whole country! First we had "The Club and the Press," by Miss Knobe of Chicago, who was both witty and sensible. Then came Mrs. Platt of Denver, who carries always her vigor and happy faculty of preaching and pleasing in the same breath. Mrs. Platt consistently and courageously pushed away from her the offered presidency of the General Federation last June, and perhaps she was right. But she must never do it again. The G. F. W. C. must some time be benefited by the leadership of such a personality. Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer's address on "Education in Europe Compared with Our Own" was beyond praise, as all things are that touch perfection in matter and manner. It was a scholarly and comprehensive survey of the fundamental differences in the theory and practice of education in Germany, France, England and America. The Germans she found occupied with scientific facts and careless of the manner of expressing them; thorough and intense, but hard and unsympathetic in dealing with children. France devoted to the graces of speech and manner and concerned rather with the how than the what. England coercive and paternal in its attitude toward the young, teaching them to obey well that they may govern well. Therefore, America's lesson in education must be to learn thoroughness from Germany, grace of manner and respect for correct language from France, obedience to authority from England, and to all this we must join our more sympathetic methods of training, our encouragement to self-restraint and self-activity, and our rigorous aims in the building of individual character. Mrs. Palmer's story of the little schoolmistress in the country schoolhouse, who was pulling down the flag because a little boy had told a lie, the children all agreeing with her that the stars and stripes must not float over a roof that sheltered a liar, brought tears to more than one eye.

Dr. Cranfield of the University declared at the close of this evening's program that although he was familiar with and confident of what is known as "the woman's movement," it came to him with new force what better ideals men must hold and what better efforts they must make, intellectually and morally,

to keep up with the modern trend of things when one could hear in one evening three such women as graced the stage of the Great Southern Theatre. This statement, put with the motto of the Ohio Federation, "Influence is Responsibility," gives food for thought.

Friday morning was devoted principally to reports and election. There were, however, two good papers, one on "The Relation of Literary Clubs to Sociology," by Mrs. Selover of Cleveland, and another on "How Can Ohio Clubs Promote the Cause of Education in Our Schools?" by Mrs. Morehead of Cincinnati, the last followed by a symposium of three-minute talks. Mrs. Ellen H. Richards' address in the afternoon was upon "The Place of the Mistress in the Household," and gave a new significance to the term "housekeeper." It was what one likes to think a public address by a woman should be—thoroughly scientific, thoroughly dignified and thoroughly feminine.

Social events were, of course, numerous. Governor and Mrs. Bushnell received the delegates and visitors in the Great Southern Hotel on Friday afternoon. The State University kept open house in its splendid new armory building on Thursday, while many private homes showed generous hospitality.

The election resulted as follows: President, Mrs. W. P. Orr of Piqua; vice-president, Mrs. J. H. Canfield of Columbus; recording secretary, Miss Orpha Cheney, Washington Court House; corresponding secretary, Mrs. John Tucker, Newark; treasurer, Mrs. L. H. Selover, Cleveland; auditor, Mrs. H. C. Adams, Toledo. CHARLOTTE REEVE CONOVER.

WISCONSIN.

More than 120 delegates and 70 visitors, representing about 40 clubs, were at the second annual convention of the State Federation at La Crosse, November 9 and 10, and the program was finely carried out.

At the meeting of the executive board, the evening of Nov. 8, the following tribute in resolution was paid to Mrs. Morris:

Resolved, that this board express, through a vote of thanks to the retiring president, Mrs. Charles S. Morris, its appreciation of her ability, fairness, tact and untiring energy and zeal, which have promoted harmony and good feeling in the board and advanced in every way the best interests of the Federation. And that this resolution be spread upon the records of the board as a lasting memorial of the high estimation in which our president has been held by those working under her.

At the opening session Mrs. David R. Kendall gave the address of greeting, and there was in her words such personal welcome to every woman there, that everyone voiced Mrs. Morris' response in its appreciation.

After responding to the addresses of welcome, Mrs. Morris proceeded to take a broad survey of the results of the work of the State Federation during the two years of its experience in Wisconsin, leaving particular achievements to be reported by chairmen of committees having the various lines of work in charge. She said the Federation had passed the skeptical period, that all efforts towards its expansion were no longer met by the query "Who will show us any good?" She referred to the recognition accorded it by educators and business men alike, and expressed her appreciation of the helpful encouragement given by the press of Wisconsin.

Mrs. Morris then proceeded to make recommendations for the guidance of the Federation in the future. She advocated the wisdom of organizing city Federations, designating the many avenues of endeavor open to them, made a strong appeal for the admission of mixed clubs to the Federation, advised the holding of district conventions and urged the providing of a revenue sufficient to permit the carrying on of the most useful work of the committees, such as issuing traveling reference libraries, accompanied by study outlines, photographs, etc.

The reports of officers and chairmen which followed showed great gains for the club movement in Wisconsin during the past year.

In the afternoon, following the report of the educational committee, Mrs. Amanda Kidder of La Crosse gave a talk on physical culture and Mrs. R. M. La Fallette described the work of the Emily Bishop League, after which there was an open parliament on "Various Club and Federation Interests," with ten three-minute talks. Mrs. John W. Faville of Appleton opened the parliament with a few words of introduction, telling of the necessity of such a review, and was followed by Mrs. George H. Hopper of Racine on "Responsibilities of Officers and Members of the Federation."

The promotion of its growth was discussed by Mrs. C. W. Deane, who urged club extension and the interesting of country towns in Federations. Mrs. W. K. Galloway of Eau Claire discussed Federation relations to schools; Mrs. Charles Elmore, to the home; Mrs. S. L. Graves, the value of Parliamentary practice; and Miss Martha Scott Anderson of the Minneapolis Journal, talked about the relations of the club to the community, in a description of the rest-rooms for country women maintained by the Minnesota Federation and pushed by them as actively as Wisconsin is forwarding the library movement.

In the evening, at Pasadena, the home of Mrs. Robert Scott, a reception was given by the La Crosse clubs to delegates and visiting guests. The affair was a brilliant one, the officers of the Federation, all of whom were present, acting as reception committee.

The second day of the convention of the Federation of Women's clubs was a better day than the first—not because the program was better, but because the audiences were better, and that big, intangible something called convention spirit was in evidence at every turn. Mrs. Morris let fall the gavel promptly at 9.30 o'clock. The report of Mrs. Arthur Neville, chairman of the Federation reciprocity bureau, was given first, and the work of this important committee was done full justice by Mrs. Neville, who is an excellent speaker. In part, she said:

"As arranged the first group is on Art Topics; the second one Literary; third, History; Paper on State Institutions; Study and Club Helps; Home and Education; Nature Studies and Science. This enables one to see at a glance whether the bureau contains what is wanted and brings into prominence the subjects treated rather than the individual or club as in the first edition. The work of the bureau, as known through its catalogue, has met with much expressed approval abroad, letters of recommendation having been received from Massachusetts, Kansas, Connecticut, California, Rhode Island and Colorado, with requests for the loan of some of the papers, even though a charge be made for them. These requests, however, the committee have not deemed it wise to comply with, as it withdrew the papers too long from circulation. The Club Woman and the club column of Harper's Bazar have also had kind words to say of this branch of the work."

Mrs. E. F. Hanson of Beloit, in whose charge has been placed the handling of the reference library which is such a possession to state clubs, gave the next report on the work of the library committee. She also gave the report of club library work throughout the state. Clubs the state over, she said, are aiding in one way and another and to club women are many cities indebted for the establishment of their free public libraries. She especially commended the work at Racine, which—as is true of the Racine Woman's clubs themselves—is to be laid at the door of Mrs. George H. Hopper.

The report of the art interchange committee sent by Mrs. James B. Estee of Milwaukee was presented by Mrs. Luther Davies of Oshkosh. It showed in detail the work of the various clubs in Wisconsin to place good pictures in public schools and colleges.

Miss Lenore Hilbert of Milwaukee then gave a ten-minute report of the Denver Biennial. She spoke of the duty that will fall to Milwaukee in two years of entertaining "the finest women of the finest country on earth," and said that it seemed most timely to tell what the Denver women had done to prepare for their guests.

A letter was read from Mrs. G. W. Kendrick, corresponding secretary of the General Federation, formally accepting for the national organization the invitation endorsed by the Wisconsin Federation for the coming of the Biennial to Milwaukee in 1900. One from Mrs. Rebecca Lowe, president of the General Federation, was read by Mrs. Neville, sending greetings to the state convention.

The report of the nomination committee by Miss Stearns was preceded by a warm tribute to Mrs. Morris, whose re-election was solely prevented by a provision of the constitution.

There were two important addresses in the afternoon—by Miss Jane Addams of Hull House, on "Social Settlements in Europe and America."

The last address of the afternoon was by Mrs. George H. Ide of Milwaukee on "Village and Town Improvement."

One pleasant thing in the library department of the convention has been the offer by Miss Stearns, on behalf of the free library commission of the state, of a fresh box of books every six months for thirteen and a half years to country towns which wish to establish libraries, and can get together a small fund as nucleus, and a place to put the books. The other offer was that of \$35 to the reference library committee for the purchase of books along any line they like, to be indicated by the clubs in the state unable to buy their own books, and indicating what ones they would like selected.

A musical program on the last evening brought the convention of the State Federation of Women's Clubs to a pleasant close. The vote on the election of officers in afternoon was as follows: President, Mrs. A. C. Neville, Green Bay; vice-president, Mrs. F. C. Winkler, Milwaukee; recording secretary, Mrs. H. M. Youmans, Waukesha; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Thomas Bardon, Ashland; treasurer, Mrs. R. A. Scott, La Crosse; auditor, Mrs. E. P. Sawyer, Oshkosh; district vice-presidents—first, Mrs. G. H. Hopper, Racine; second, Mrs. E. G. Updyke, Madison; third, Mrs. A. L. Harris, Reedsburg; fourth, Mrs. T. H. Brown, Milwaukee; fifth, Mrs. W. H. Wright, Wauwatosa; sixth, Mrs. C. S. Morris, Berlin; seventh, Mrs. G. A. Barry, Eau Claire; eighth, Mrs. W. B. Baker, Waupaca; ninth, Mrs. C. W. Deane, Antigo; tenth, Mrs. I. W. Burhaus, West Superior.

"First of all," Mrs. Morris said in her address, "we bring you love. This not with any thought of sentimentality, but because I know its meaning so well. Because it is the summum bonum of life." This was the spirit of the entire meeting. It was felt from the moment of greeting by the La Crosse women and it was not superficial. If the man who talks of the "foolish fracas" of women's meetings could have been there, there was not once where he could have criticised. And that he can't always say about his own conventions, either. ZONA GALE.

MINNESOTA.

The annual meeting of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs was held at Winona on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of the last week in October.

In attendance, interest and in the reports of progress in altruistic effort the meeting was a manifest success, though in one direction failure has taught a much needed lesson to all future program committees and speakers.

Minnesota women had not learned to be business-like; that an invitation to present a "five minute talk" to be followed by discussion, is not an invitation to read about twenty pages of

manuscript, and thus become personally both the leader and the entire discussion. This—misunderstanding—is the cause of any disappointment that may have been felt by those who came to hear and to tell some new thing in club work.

The entire absence of general discussion from the program de facto is doubly unfortunate from the practical character of the topics presented, requiring the reaction of varying opinions to impress upon the memory the thought and suggestion contained in the really excellent papers. The following scrap of conversation, overheard at the close of one session, was doubtless typical of many:

Mrs. A.—“The papers are very good, aren't they? I did enjoy Miss —'s so much!”

Mrs. B.—“It was fine! The best thing yet! But—I'm really ashamed to say it—but I can't remember what it was about!”

Mrs. A.—“I can't either.”

The program of Wednesday was devoted to that unending subject, Women, and closed after the president's address with a reception given by the Women's Clubs of Winona to delegates and visitors..

The program of Thursday was occupied with club and school topics. The paper of Mrs. M. M. Hoagland of Marshall, Minn., on “The Club as a Factor in Individual Development,” met with an enthusiastic reception and has been repeatedly mentioned in conversation as of special interest. The paper was fortunate in expressing in lucid and epigrammatic style the experience of many “individuals” present, and in presenting a strong and sympathetic plea for club work.

Mrs. W. W. Fowler of Rochester reported the work of the Town and Country Club committee. In this field Minnesota was a pioneer and occupies still advanced ground. Encouraging gains have been made. Rest rooms are the most popular form of the work and in addition to the very successful model in Rochester there have been three established in or near Tracy, in which the business men aid financially, and one in Anoka. The Anoka room is under the auspices of the Woman's Study Club and was undertaken for the purpose not only of giving pleasure and comfort to the country, but of furnishing a stimulus to the altruistic tendencies of the fostering club. The room, which is large, pleasant and central, is divided by screens and has a cosy sitting room, a dining room and a lavatory with toilet conveniences. There are reading matter, a writing desk, a loan collection of books, lounges, cushions and comfortable chairs and a cradle. Tea and coffee are served at 3 cents a cup.

Mrs. Eli Torrance gave a humorous and much appreciated talk, “The Relation of Woman to Public Institutions,” in the form of a story of the evolution of Mary Martha, who was brought up as an “old-fashioned girl,” but has become a club woman of the most approved and modern type. Her pictures of public school life, as observed by her heroine, both as teacher and mother, were a sharp satire on recognized abuses. She criticised her modern woman in spite of all her virtues as a little too self-conscious, inclined to strive to be able rather than useful, and as taking herself too seriously.

In the evening of Thursday Mr. J. A. Tormey, Superintendent of Winona Public Schools, gave an address containing practical suggestions as to the directions in which club women could be of assistance, and urged their help in the establishment of free baths in connection with the public schools.

A sketch of the life of Jessie L. Gainor, an almost unknown person to most of the women present, followed the address of Mr. Toomey, and was illustrated by selections from each volume of her songs. The close of the evening was devoted to a subject much in evidence in Federation circles just now: the traveling library. A stereopticon lecture was given by Miss L. E. Stearns, the librarian of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, and the varied life of a traveling library and the homes into

which it enters were shown in the views.

Of Friday's program the best remembered portion will probably be the talk of Mrs. J. E. Bell upon children's reading. The material for this talk was gathered from the study of over eighteen hundred papers written by Minnesota school children in answer to a list of seven questions sent out to the schools of the state. The questions were:

1. What books have you read since September?
2. What book did you like best?
3. Why do you like this book?
4. Is there any book you like better?
5. What book do you not like?
6. Why?
7. If money were given you to buy a book what book would you buy?

From the answers of these questions Mrs. Bell obtained several interesting generalizations. Children between the ages of eight and ten or eleven like fairy stories. Kipling, Joel Chanler Harris, Jacobs, Stockton are suitable at that period. At the age of ten or eleven a taste for adventure begins, and Marmion, Julius Caesar (of Shakespeare), thrilling songs and ballads are enjoyed. Mrs. Bell thought that Scott was not usually given to children early enough. Kingsley is a favorite. The appetite for reading of boys and girls between eleven and fourteen years old is insatiable. There is danger, however, that they will not read the same book often enough. At fourteen begins, in boys, a taste for history and biography. The lives of Washington, Lincoln, Daniel Boone and other prominent men are read. “Boys of '76” and “Boys of '61” are read till the covers drop off. It is necessary at this age to cultivate in girls a love of solid reading, and in boys a liking for poetry, which they are apt to neglect unless it is presented attractively.

In the discussions of the executive board, the mid-year breakfast and the relation of the Federation to the Educational Association of the State were the chief matters of interest. Owing to some practical difficulties in arranging for the breakfast, which is given at St. Paul or Minneapolis, the question of its discontinuance was brought forward. To arrange for a gathering of five hundred women and provide the whereabouts for social converse and leisurely dining without making the price per plate beyond the purse of the average woman seemed to some of the city women too large a problem to be undertaken, but when the unanimous desire for the breakfast was brought out by discussion, it became impossible to give up an occasion so greatly appreciated by the out of town women.

The very grateful response of the educational leaders of the state to the desire for co-operation expressed by the women's the need of discussion. Representatives of the Federation occupied by invitation a half day of the State Educational Association, which met last December, and it is probable that the invitation will be renewed this year.

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The club women in return have given to school matters a large proportion of time in the annual meeting, and listened to addresses from two prominent educators.

The most abiding thought of the entire three days was, perhaps, the message of the president, Miss Margaret J. Evans. After reviewing briefly the growth, undertakings and aims of the Federation, Miss Evans passed to a plea for absolute unselfishness, both in the organization and the individual members, which, enforced by the personality of the speaker, and the almost reverent affection with which she is regarded, will probably leave a permanent impression upon the Women's Clubs of Minnesota.

"I would have it said," said Miss Evans, "that there is no seeking for office in the Federation of Women's Clubs of Minnesota. I am proud that in the Biennial meeting of the General Federation Minnesota stood as neither seeking nor desiring an office. I would have it said among us that to seek an office is to seek defeat; that the mere ungrounded suspicion of office-seeking is a certain bar to advancement; that the office, when it comes unsought, is accepted as an honor and as a responsibility."

Miss Evans was re-elected president, Miss Laura Jones of Duluth vice-president. Mrs. C. E. Conant of Wells and Mrs. E. G. Butts of Stillwater were re-elected corresponding secretary and treasurer. The next convention will be held in St. Cloud.

BERTHA E. BREWER.

St. Charles, Minn.

UTAH.

The fifth annual meeting of the Utah Federation will go down to history as one of the most successful sessions that has ever been held. The convention, which was held in Ogden the last week in October, lasted two days, and on the first evening a large reception was given by the local committee. Mrs. W. F. Adams, president of La Coterie of Ogden, welcomed the visitors on behalf of the club women of the Junction City. Referring to the history of the club movement in Utah, Mrs. Adams said:

"In a few short years the Federation of Women's Clubs in Utah has discarded the swaddling clothes and become a robust, fine-grown organization, the rapid development of which would be a source of amazement were it not that we Western women have grown accustomed to rapid strides. It is the natural out-

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growth of our free environment. Who could think small thoughts or do small deeds while gazing on these grand, old, rugged mountains, these rocky sentinels that hold aloft far into the ether blue their snow-capped summits in winter and these verdure-clad slopes in summer, guarding in eternal silence the valleys that nestle at their feet?"

Mrs. Martha Burgess Jennings, president of the Federation, in her annual address expressed a wish that all club members would assist her in making the ensuing year of her administration a success. She also reviewed the business meetings of the past year, and said the club membership of the Federation had increased over 50 per cent. since October, 1897. At that time there were only seventeen clubs in membership, while now there are twenty-six, with every indication pointing to a rapid increase during the ensuing year. Mrs. Jennings dealt at some length upon the Denver Biennial and the vast good that accrued to the cause of woman as a result of the meeting.

At the Thursday morning session, October 27, Mrs. A. B. Greason of the Enquirers Club of Salt Lake City read a paper on the "Cultivation of a Club Conscience." Mrs. Greason received a great many compliments on the able manner in which she handled her topic, and copies of the paper were sent to all clubs in the state, by order of the convention.

Mrs. C. D. Moore's resume of the work done by the traveling library was highly appreciated. This, together with special educational work, were the two things that the Federation undertook last year. The three cases of books, 180 volumes, started out from Ogden at the close of last week's session, and are now touring the state on their beneficial mission.

Mrs. Emma J. McVicker, chairman of the educational committee of the Federation, reported that nearly all federated clubs had responded to invitations to appoint education committees to assist the state committee in carrying out the work arranged. The efforts of the committee so far have been to improve the

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heating, lighting and sanitary conditions of the public schools.

The state organizer, Mrs. M. F. Alley of Park City, reported that the number of clubs had increased since last year from seventeen to twenty-six.

The second afternoon session was devoted to a consideration of educational topics, Mrs. Emma J. McVicker of Salt Lake presiding.

Mrs. Jennings read a paper prepared by Mrs. W. E. Halm, formerly of Salt Lake City, on the work that is being done by the Denver Woman's Club along kindergarten lines.

Miss Anna K. Craig of the Utah Sorosis of Provo followed Mrs. Jennings, with a discussion of how to get the kindergarten into the public schools.

Mrs. Hilliard of the Child Culture Club of Ogden closed with a five-minute plea for the kindergarten as a part of the public school system.

A debate on the subject, "Resolved that the environment has as much influence as the teacher in forming the character of the pupil," was listened to with much interest. The affirmative was presented by Mrs. Mary M. F. Allen of Park City and the negative by Mrs. Heber J. Grant of Salt Lake, in whose favor the judges decided.

At the closing session Mrs. Eliza Kirtley Royle reviewed the best novel of the year (Hugh Wynne).

Mrs. Fletcher of La Coterie dealt with a difficult subject in a very delightful manner. "Our Best Society" was the subject of her paper.

Mrs. Mila Tupper Maynard, Salt Lake City's beloved Unitarian minister, discussed "The Ideal City." The speaker said that clubs may be useful to men and women, or may be unnecessary for either because of the many lines of study at hand for all. Woman's life will be more wisely applied, there will be more co-operation, fewer cook-stoves and more expert cooks.

ANNIE J. COPE.

GEORGIA.

The Georgia Federation held its second annual convention in Columbus, Nov. 8th, 9th and 10th. The convention was a perfect success in every particular, the reports of clubs showing a decided improvement in the nature of the work accomplished. One mark of more precise business methods was shown by all the reports being made in a concise business manner within the three-minute limit.

The educational, library and reform committees each made fine reports and gave an interesting program. The law committee presented the convention with their book, a compilation of the Statutes of Georgia pertaining to women, said by eminent lawyers of the state to be the best book of the kind yet produced. Some very pertinent questions were given to the body for discussion and ably handled, such as: The condition of the wage earning women and children of Georgia. Does society need the Club? Should women be admitted to the School of Technology? Can women find in the Department Club all needed work and study?

Upon the first evening the president of the General Federation, Mrs. R. D. Lowe, made a very fine address upon the "Growth and Development of the General Federation." Mrs. J. K. Only of Atlanta spoke most eloquently upon "Some New Thoughts About Old Things," the old things being the old way of cramming the child's brain in the school which lasted from early morn to dewy eve; the new thoughts being a description of the new system of education, which is as yet in an embryo state, but which has already demonstrated that when perfected it will cause the emancipation of the school slave, who in the present day may be called a learning machine, and make of the growing generation independent individuals, employing hand, eye and brain in unison. The second evening a most delightful musical reception was given by the Orpheus Club of Columbus.

The social functions of the convention were simply elegant. The club women hold such a high place in the social world of Columbus, which has always been noted for its magnificent entertainments, that the visiting club women soon found they were the guests of the entire community.

Tuesday afternoon the convention enjoyed a most exquisite organ recital by Professor Brown of the Columbus School of Music. Tuesday night the Students Club gave a reception in the gentlemen's club house, an old mansion of other days, which was beautifully decorated with mammoth palms and beautiful vines, brought from "Down the River," the hospitable citizens of this old historic town thinking nothing of importing a boat load of tropical plants to decorate in honor of their guests.

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Wednesday the Woman's Reading Club gave a fine luncheon to one hundred and fifty guests. The guests were seated at immense round tables covered with beautiful fancy work and choice flowers. A stranger entering that old mansion filled with magnificent furniture and plate of another century could easily have imagined himself in a colonial hall filled with ladies of by-gone days. Only the conversation on free kindergartens, traveling libraries and other current topics would have proved it was a body of earnest club women enjoying most heartily a luncheon prepared for them by their sister club women.

Thursday evening the Federation was tendered a beautiful colonial tea by the Daughters of the Revolution, at the Muscogee Club house. That the club movement is new in the South all know, but only those who were in Columbus can understand what a hold it has taken upon the best people of Georgia, gentlemen as well as ladies.

All was delight from the opening of the convention by an address of welcome from the Mayor, Hon. H. L. Chappell, to the last reception upon the last night. Mrs. J. Lindsay Johnson, who from the office of vice-president was promoted to the president's chair on Mrs. Lowe's resigning to become the national leader, was re-elected to that office.

MICHIGAN.

The Michigan Federation held its fourth annual in Manistee, Oct. 25, 26, 27, and although the city is not very accessible there were one hundred and eighteen delegates present from the one hundred and two clubs federated. These were the guests of the Lakeside Club of Manistee. The executive ability of their president, Mrs. Wheeler, and the members composing her committees were fully exemplified in the systematic and expeditious manner with which the delegates at the several stations were taken care of in the downpour of rain. The club raised over five hundred dollars for the Federation. The first Congregational church, one of the finest in northern Michigan, was beautifully decorated with their club colors, a symphony in yellow, for the occasion. The fine parlors for "rest," the post-office, the bureau of information, check and toilet rooms were all complete, and above all the good fellowship made sunshine through all the dark and stormy days.

The presence of Mrs. Lowe, president of the G. F. W. C., was a great inspiration, Michigan being the first to extend an invitation since her election. The papers, addresses, discussions all had a tendency to show that the formative period of the Federation is past. The Michigan Woman's Press Association was well represented by Mrs. Lucy A. Leggett of Detroit, the president; Mrs. Mary K. Buck, Traverse City; Mrs. Belle M. Perry, Charlotte; Mrs. S. M. B. Fox, editor Rochester Era; Mrs. Kate Ward, Hillsdale Standard; Mrs. Irma T. Jones, of the Interchange; Mrs. Emma J. Rose, Mason, and Mrs. Mary E. H. Coville, Ionia Sentinel, Belding. Mrs. Emma Fox of Detroit, recording secretary General Federation, was present through all sessions.

The closing of this delightful gathering of Michigan's brightest women was a reception in Armory Hall, which was artistically decorated with evergreens, palms and roses. Refreshments were served and an orchestra gave patriotic selections. The guests were treated to a trolley ride to the salt works, the largest in the country. Thus closed the best meeting in the history of the Michigan Federation.

Belding, Mich.

MARY E. H. COVILLE.

The president of the Connecticut State Federation writes: "Enclosed find \$1.00 for Club Woman another year. I should not know how to get along without her bright and breezy presence, bringing her good cheer from East and West, North and South. Long life to The Club Woman."

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"From the most abject physical wreck I have succeeded, by the use of naturally organized food, in reorganizing my body into perfectly healthy conditions. I use no other bread nor cereal food product than shredded whole wheat biscuit, and dishes made from these biscuit. I am fifty-five years of age and feel younger than twenty years ago."—Henry D. Perky, Worcester, Mass.

"Let every man first become himself that which he teaches others to be."

The above quotation fits Mr. H. D. Perky, the founder of the New Era Cooking School. He is a living example of a perfectly healthy man, and this is what he teaches others may be, if they will use properly cooked naturally organized food. Mr. Perky teaches that good health is merely a matter of maintaining a proper proportion in the several elements constituting the body. If this proportion is maintained, it excludes the idea of weaknesses commonly called indigestion, sick headache, rheumatism and the countless ills borne by those who seemingly know everything but that the body is built of the food one eats, and it can be no better nor in any better proportion than the food makes this possible.

See the following recipes for the kind of food that is Mr. Perky's principal diet:

Creamed Spinach.—One-half peck spinach, six Shredded Wheat Biscuit, one-fourth teaspoon salt, one-fourth teaspoon white pepper, one-half cup heavy cream, two level tablespoons butter, salt and pepper. Pick over and wash the spinach till entirely free from grit, put in a kettle without water and set on the stove where it will cook slowly till the juices are drawn out, then boil till tender. Drain and chop fine. Return to kettle, add butter, salt, pepper and cream, heat but do not cook. Split the biscuit with sharp pointed knife, sprinkle lightly with salt and pepper, toast lightly in oven. Dress with the prepared spinach and serve hot.

Creamed Mushrooms.—One can mushrooms, two tablespoons butter, two teaspoons lemon juice, one teaspoon scraped onion, one-half teaspoon salt, one-eighth teaspoon white pepper, two tablespoons Entire Wheat Flour, one cup milk, one-half cup heavy cream, four Shredded Wheat Biscuit. Rinse the mushrooms with cold water, dry in a towel, and cut into halves. Melt the butter in the blazer, add onion, salt and pepper, and when it is hot, add the mushrooms. Cook slowly three minutes, stirring occasionally, then add the lemon juice; mix well, add the flour. Cook one minute, and add the milk and cream, stirring until thick and smooth. Serve on Shredded Wheat Biscuit split and toasted.

Shredded Wheat Biscuit Toast.—Split the Biscuit lengthwise into halves; toast to nice brown in oven, taking care that they do not burn, or toast over coals. With a knife first dipped in hot water lay thin slices of butter on the toast, and serve at once.

Scrambled Eggs and Tomatoes on Shredded Wheat Biscuit Toast.—Six medium size tomatoes, one small new onion, two tablespoons butter, one-fourth teaspoon salt, one-sixteenth teaspoon white pepper, four eggs, four Shredded Wheat Biscuit. Remove skin from tomatoes, cut into small pieces. Peel the onion and mince it fine. Put the butter into an omelet pan, when it is bubbling add the onion and cook to a golden brown.

Then add the salt, pepper and tomatoes, and while they are cooking, split and toast the Biscuit and beat the eggs light. When the tomatoes are cooked, add the beaten eggs. When they begin to cook break up into large light curds. When all the egg is cooked, serve on the toasted halves of Shredded Wheat Biscuit.

Vegetable Salad.—One cold cooked beet, one cold cooked carrot, one cold cooked potato, a few cold green string beans, one head lettuce, French dressing, mayonnaise. Wash and crisp the lettuce. Make the mayonnaise, then the French dressing as follows: Three tablespoons lucca oil, one-half teaspoon salt, one-fourth teaspoon white pepper, one teaspoon vinegar, one teaspoon lemon juice. Mix the salt and pepper with one tablespoon oil, then add vinegar, then remaining oil and lemon juice, mixing thoroughly. Cut the cold carrots, beets and potatoes into slices one-fourth inch thick, then into one-fourth inch cubes, cut part of the beans into one-fourth inch pieces, put the vegetables on separate plates and marinate with the French dressing, set away in cool place. When ready to serve, arrange the lettuce for individual serving. Mix the cubed vegetables and place an equal quantity on each set of leaves. Dress lightly with mayonnaise and garnish with the whole string beans. Serve with Shredded Wheat Biscuit, brown bread, cheese sandwiches.

Tomato and Celery Salad.—Six ripe tomatoes of uniform size, one bunch celery, one head lettuce, two tablespoons finely minced capers. Salad dressing No. 143, Vital Question, French dressing No. 1. Wash and wipe the tomatoes and cut a cap from the stem end, remove the inside from the tomatoes. Clean the celery and mince fine. Mix with the French dressing and fill the tomatoes. Arrange in the lettuce leaves to serve individually, dress with salad dressing, serve with Shredded Wheat Biscuit toast.

Prune Pie.—One pound prunes, thoroughly washed, four cups cold water, one-half cup sugar, one lemon sliced, six Shredded Wheat Biscuit, one pint milk, one cup cream whipped. Put the prunes, lemon, and cold water in a sauce-pan on the fire, and stew slowly till tender enough for the seed to slip out. Then add the sugar, and when it is dissolved remove from fire. Turn the syrup off and set aside to cool. Remove lemon and seed from prunes, and chop the prunes into small pieces. Prepare the Biscuit by first heating thoroughly in the oven, then dip in cold milk, drain off all milk possible, place on plate on which it is to be served, and moisten with fruit syrup. Place enough prunes on Biscuit to be at least one-half inch thick when distributed evenly. Distribute the prunes with a knife so as to be flat on top, and straight and square on ends and sides. With knife spread top dressing of whipped cream lightly over top, sides and ends, allowing the fruit to show through. The cream may be ribbed with a fork made hot in boiling water.

Fig Pie.—One pound pulled figs, four cups cold water, one lemon, one-half cup sugar, one pint cold milk, one cup cream, six Shredded Wheat Biscuit. Wash the figs and put in double boiler with cold water and lemon cut into slices. Cook till tender, then add sugar, and when it is dissolved turn off the syrup, and rub the figs through fine sieve. Prepare the Biscuit as for prune pie, then put one-half inch layer of fig pulp on the top, distributing evenly, making square on ends and sides. Serve with top dressing of whipped cream spread over evenly and scored with a fork made hot by dipping in hot water.

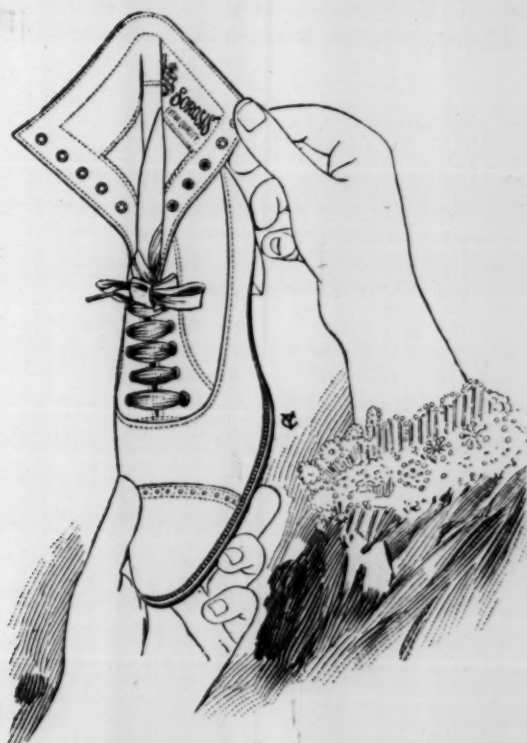
Directions for Making Wheat-Shred Drink.—Use seven parts boiling water to one part Wheat-Shred Drink. Put the Wheat-Shred Drink in cheese-cloth bag in coffee-pot. Turn the boiling water on the Wheat-Shred Drink and boil five minutes. Remove the bag, bring the clear liquid to a boil, serve with cream and sugar while hot. Never fill the bag more than half full, and tie near the top.

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CONNECTICUT.

A meeting of the Council of the Connecticut State Federation of Women's Clubs was held at Norwich, October 21st, upon invitation of the Wednesday Afternoon Club of that place. The council consists of the president of each federated club, chairmen of standing committees, and the officers and directors of the Federation. Norwich has a beautiful little clubhouse, which the gentlemen own and place at the disposal of the lady associate members for such an affair as this. The assembly room was made beautiful with autumn leaves and the whole house was decorated with chrysanthemums. At noon a delicious luncheon was served in the grill room, the waitresses being the young daughters of the members of the Wednesday Afternoon Club. The president of the club, Mrs. W. S. C. Perkins, welcomed the council with a few appropriate words, and the morning's program was then carried out. The president's address, by Mrs. T. K. Noble, was so enthusiastically received that it was voted to have it printed and sent to the clubs, and the speaker was asked to incorporate part of it in her address before the next Federation meeting.

The reports of the standing committees were then received. Miss M. M. Abbott of Waterbury, chairman of educational committee, reported from her own town the effort to obtain the good-will of superintendent and teachers of the local schools, the placing of six good pictures in each school in the town in turn, a class in the club for the study of the theory of education and the printing of a good list of books suitable for the use of children which could be found in the Silas Bronson Library. She urged especially that the clubs interest themselves in having domestic science taught in the high schools.

Miss Dotha Stone Pinneo, chairman of committee on free public libraries, forcibly recommended three important matters which come especially within the province of the literary club, of which the Federation is largely composed. 1. To establish a free public library. 2. To insist upon the high character of its administration. 3. To advertise far and near through the town that there was such a thing as a free public library. She also strongly urged the gift of a set of books in a case by each club to be used as a travelling library, whose first station should be one's own town, and the formation of travelling collections of pictures. She submitted 37 lists of books, of from 25 to 50 volumes, and 15 lists of pictures and casts, and the names of 10 dealers in these.

Dr. Sophia Penfield of Danbury, chairman of committee on civics, recommended three things to be worked for by the clubs: 1. To keep children off the streets at night. 2. To keep the streets clean. 3. To aid indigent persons to become self-supporting. She was followed by Mrs. F. W. Benham of Derby, who gave a short paper upon the flaw in the law regarding the keeping of rubbish off the streets. Dr. Penfield also announced the election of two women upon the school board in Danbury.

Mrs. C. W. Shelton gave a short paper upon "Sweatshops and Factory Laws," which was followed by an animated discussion as to what should be done about them. Most interesting reports of club presidents as to the work being done in individual clubs, in response to the request of the Federation, followed. A letter was read from Adeline Harrington of Denver, urging that Connecticut ascertain what are her present laws with regard to equal guardianship of parents over children, and if they are solely in favor of the father, make an effort to right this wrong. Interested discussion resulted in the appointment of a committee to investigate both this and the factory laws.

A special meeting of the Federation in New Britain, December 6th and 7th, at which Mrs. Rebecca D. Lowe will be present, was announced by the president, and Miss Whittlesey of New Britain, on behalf of the Woman's Club, assured the Federation of a hearty welcome.



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NORTH DAKOTA.

The North Dakota Federation met at Wahpeton the last week in October, with the president, Mrs. Jennie S. Tuller of Fargo, in the chair. The address of welcome by the president of the Wahpeton Book and Thimble Club, Wahpeton, Mrs. Fanny E. Gellerman, was ably responded to by Vice-President Engle of Lisbon.

The report on household economics was made by the originator of the department, Miss Marie Senn, professor of household economics in the State Agricultural College. Mrs. Kilbourne of Lisbon made the report on education; Mrs. Knox of Wahpeton, on reciprocity; and Mrs. Sowles of Wahpeton, on the badge.

In the afternoon a symposium brought out some of the brightest papers and thoughts of the meeting. The subjects were: "In the Home," "In the School," "In the State." The first topic was treated by Mrs. Mary Lane of Wahpeton and Mrs. Powell of Devil's Lake. The second was well brought out by Mrs. Helen Marsh of Lisbon, Mrs. McKissick of Mayville, and Mrs. Folsom of Fargo. The third was taken up by Mrs. C. J. Lord of Cando, Mrs. Knox of Wahpeton, and Mrs. Fred Klapp of Jamestown. Miss Whedon, editor of Western Womanhood, Fargo, gave a very interesting address on "The Value of the Press to the Club."

Over 200 were present at the 6 o'clock luncheon, including the husbands of the members of the Book and Thimble Club.

A symposium, "Phases of Club Work," divided into three parts, was one of the most interesting features of the program. "Department Clubs" was taken up by Mrs. Addie Wetherbee, Fairmount. "Social Life of Clubs" was very ably treated by Mrs. Anna Hazen, Wahpeton, whose paper was one of the ablest of the convention. "Philanthropic Work" was discussed by Mrs. Jennie Wright, Valley City. Mrs. Clark Kelley, Devil's

Lake, read a paper on "The Relation of Clubs to the State."

The Musical Clubs of Fargo and Janestown had entire charge of the evening, and it proved to be one of the most instructive and entertaining of the whole Federation. Besides the musical program there were two papers, one on "The Standard of Music in North Dakota," and one on "The Holy Grail."

The wild rose is to be the Federation flower.

The following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. Lauder, Wahpeton; vice-presidents, Mrs. Lord, Cando; Mrs. Charles McKissick, Mayville; Mrs. Engle, Lisbon; Mrs. Sternberg, Valley City; recording secretary, Mrs. Powell, Devil's Lake; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Barber, Wahpeton; treasurer, Mrs. Boyd, Langdon; auditor, Mrs. Grubbs, Jamestown; directors, Mrs. Klapp, Jamestown; Mrs. Tuller, Fargo; Mrs. Marsh, Lisbon.

MASSACHUSETTS.

An extra Federation meeting is to be held in Boston December 13 and 14, in honor of Mrs. Rebecca D. Lowe's visit here. Tuesday, the 13th, the meetings will be held in Park Street Church, morning and afternoon, and the subject of the day will be, "Industrial Conditions," especially those pertaining to women and children. The Hon. Carroll D. Wright has promised to come on from Washington to deliver an address, and one of the Massachusetts inspectors of factories will also speak. Among the subjects considered will be "Relations of the Domestic Problem to the Industrial Problem." The laws of Massachusetts as they affect the condition of women and children will be considered; also the condition of women who work in mercantile establishments; and a wage earning woman will speak of wage earners as she sees them and knows them.

Wednesday will probably be given up to social festivities in Mrs. Lowe's honor. Wednesday evening there will be a public meeting in Tremont Temple. Mayor Quincy will make an address, as will Mrs. Lowe; and Mr. Walter A. Wycoff, whose articles in Scribner's magazine on "The Workers" have attracted so much attention, will speak on "Some Phases of Industrialism."

Mrs. Lowe's visit will be made the occasion of several fine club affairs. Friday, Dec. 9, the Cantabrigian Club will give a reception in honor of Mrs. Lowe at the Hotel Vendome. The same evening Mrs. Lowe will be a guest of honor at the reception given by the Daughters of Vermont to Governor and Mrs. Edward C. Smith of Vermont and Governor and Mrs. Roger Wolcott of Massachusetts. This will be given in the presidential suite of the Vendome, and many distinguished guests will be present. Saturday, Dec. 10, Mrs. Lowe will be the guest of the Heptorean Club of Somerville. Monday, Dec. 12, the New England Woman's Press Association will give a reception for her and after the Federation meetings the Middlesex Club of Lowell, the Thought and Work Club of Salem and other influential clubs will entertain the national president.

"There was no report at Denver," writes a correspondent from South Dakota, "of our work in this state, and we were not recognized in the list of the nominating committee; but we have eight clubs in the General Federation: The Round, Culture and Thursday of Deadwood, the Lead Club of Lead, Woman's Literary of Sturgis, Current Events of Rapid City, and Shakespeare of Hot Springs; also the Travellers.

Miss Clara D. Coe, our state chairman of correspondence, is about to form a State Federation out of the "Black Hills Federation." Our meeting is in November.

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CLUB WOMEN'S CLOTHES.

There has been so much said and written on the topic of good dressing since the Denver Biennial that a few words more on the subject are pertinent. For while the principles of the Federation are such that every individual member may dress exactly as well as she pleases, the majority will always be natural women—and that means that they will incline to Shakespeare's advice: "Costly thy dress as thy purse can buy." Our motto is "Unity in diversity," which means, if it means anything, that we are to stand loyally together, no matter how diversified are our tastes, our aims or our lives.

The average woman loves a pretty gown: it is as natural for her as it is to love flowers and birds and all lovely things. The average club woman feels it incumbent upon her to make the most of such beauty as God has given her, to make herself as attractive as her means and her time will permit. Most women feel this, although too many do not properly appreciate their own points or know how to develop them. The average woman who was in Denver last summer remembers with pleasure the lovely gowns worn by Mrs. Platt and other Denver ladies, by Mrs. Henrotin, Mrs. Lowe, Mrs. Roebing, Mrs. Helmuth and several New York ladies. A few of these were French gowns, but they were bought before the attitude of France towards America became so plain and that wave of feeling swept over this country which resulted in many resolutions not to patronize Paris for fine clothes. Wasn't this a wise resolution? Ought we not as patriotic women to patronize American dressmakers, especially those equal in every respect to the Parisian modistes? Going to Paris for one's clothes has been a fad with American women long enough. Let the club women of America who can afford fine gowns—and there are many of them—realize that they have a duty in this matter of buying clothes.

Take, for instance, such a firm as Victorine & Straight of New York city. There are no more beautiful gowns to be found at the French capital than those designed at the refined and artistic establishment at 60 West 37th street. Mme. Victorine is a French woman to her finger-tips, and for years has enjoyed the patronage of the fashionable New York women. Now that she has arrived at a position where she can look forward to retirement from business, she has taken into partnership a bright and popular young woman with exceptional taste as a designer. Miss Straight is an American woman who has enjoyed the advantages of several visits to the French capital, where she has studied gowns and fabrics as an artist studies old paintings. In fact she is an artist just as truly as though she worked with paints and brushes instead of laces and beautiful fabrics. She has had much experience, having left the head of John Wanamaker's dressmaking department to join Mme. Victorine, and having previously been at the head of such departments in other leading stores in New York and elsewhere.

Miss Straight seems to have found her niche now, and is already popular with those club women who have come under the charm of her own personality or have beheld the witching creations of her artistic genius. As previously said, the up-to-date club woman, who believes in good gowns as a duty and a delight (duty and delight do not always go so well together) owes her allegiance to the brave young American woman who has worked up to a position equal to the great French modistes. Why should we forget our patriotic love of American institutions when it comes to the matter of good gowns? It is not right for our wealthy women over here to patronize our own ladies' tailors only to the extent of plain street gowns and then go to Europe for their really fine ones.

Another thing: do we not owe it to our artists, in whatever medium they work, to give them a chance to develop the best that is in them? If a woman demonstrates that she is fitted, and exceptionally fitted, for any particular work, is it not our duty as club women to encourage her in every possible way? It is of no use to inveigh against women for dressing as well as their means will allow. They always have and they always will do it. But let them think over this matter of good clothes and see how best they can help others while pleasing themselves.

The feeling of outraged love for our country which swept over this country last spring, although it has subsided in part, has left behind it a sentiment that will linger for many years: that is a stronger love for American institutions. We are finding out what other countries have realized for some time, that the United States is at the head of the world, and that our own institutions are second to none on earth. Why should we wear European goods, then, when we manufacture equally as good? Why should we cross the water to buy gowns when we can get just as fine ones at home?

The Denver Woman's Club has taken the right stand in voting to patronize the products of Colorado whenever and wherever possible. Every woman goes to New York who can, and those who cannot, hope to. Hence these references to the beautiful creations of Victorine & Straight may apply not only to New York club women alone, but to the hosts of others who go to New York for their best gowns.

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JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY.

One of the most thoroughly delightful affairs ever given in cultured Boston was the reading by Mr. James Whitcomb Riley under the auspices of the Woman's Club House Corporation, on the evening of November 12th. Tremont Temple, the largest and most beautiful hall in Boston, was filled to overflowing with a representative audience, which listened with the greatest delight and keenest appreciation to Mr. Riley's inimitable reading. Simplicity is the highest art. This must be the reason why all Boston was so enamored of the Hoosier poet. There were many times that evening when the dropping of that traditional pin would have disturbed the eager listeners who hung breathlessly on Mr. Riley's words and watched the wonderful play of expression on his mobile countenance as he impersonated the hopeful old farmer, the returned soldier, the youthful "small boy" tormenting his sister's lover, ("Didn't he, Charlie?") or gave that beautiful "Old Sweetheart of Mine," and the new poem on "Old Glory," which appears for the first time in the December Atlantic:

"Who gave you the name of Old Glory, and why
Are we thrilled at the name of Old Glory?"

Then the old banner leaped, like a sail in the blast,
And fluttered an audible answer at last.

And it spake, with a shake of the voice, and it said:—
By the driven snow-white and the living blood-red
Of my bars, and their heaven of stars overhead—
By the symbol conjoined of them all, skyward cast,

As I float from the steeple, or flap at the mast,
Or droop o'er the sod where the long grasses nod,—
My name is as old as the glory of God.

So I came by the name of Old Glory."

The entire poem of several stanzas was the more impressive for Mr. Riley's matchless delivery.

The occasion was rendered the more notable by the fact that four celebrated Boston composers, Arthur Foote, Mme. Helen Hopekirk, Mrs. H. H. A. Beach and George W. Chadwick were also on the platform and played the accompaniments to groups of their own songs, which were given by prominent singers between Mr. Riley's readings. No finer entertainment has ever been given in Boston, and already are the officers of the Woman's Club House Corporation being flooded with offers of all sorts of attractions anxious for the opportunity to appear under their patronage.

The story of this Club House Corporation would fill a page by itself: how it was started and how it has planned and struggled to raise funds for a large club house in Boston that shall not only accommodate all the clubs in this vicinity but have plenty of offices and business rooms to let which shall insure a reasonable interest to the stockholders. Under the efficient direction of the president, Mrs. Isabella A. Potter, the present board of directors have purchased one of the most desirable locations in the city for their purpose,—Nos. 9 and 11 Beacon street,—and architects are already making the working plans.

The success of the Riley reading, coming just at the time of the purchase of this property, is most gratifying to all concerned, and the Corporation is congratulating itself heartily on the good fortune that sent the Hoosier poet to them at just the right time.

A woman—in so far as she beholdeth
 Her one Beloved's face:
 A mother—with a great heart that enfoldeth
 The children of the race:
 A body, free and strong, with that high beauty
 That comes of perfect use, is built thereof:
 A mind where Reason ruleth over Duty,
 And Justice reigns with Love:
 A self-poised, royal soul, brave, wise and tender,
 No longer blind and dumb:
 A Human Being, of an unknown splendor,
 Is she who is to come!

—Charlotte Perkins Stetson.

BOOKS.

South America is coming to the front as a country worth studying, and women's clubs are beginning to inquire for lecturers and for books on the subject. There is no part of the world about which so little has been written, and Mr. Hezekiah Butterworth's new "South America; a Popular History of the Struggle for Liberty in the Andean Republics and Cuba," will meet a ready demand. Mr. Butterworth made the journey through South America two years ago and has since that time been consulting authorities and compiling this book of 264 quarto pages, which cannot fail of an instant recognition. This is the first general history of that part of tropical and sub-tropical America, to which public attention has been riveted during the past year; and owing to his personal acquaintance with those countries he points out not only the history of their races and the struggle for liberty in the South American republics and in Cuba and Porto Rico, but he makes clear the great future in store for those countries. The book is finely illustrated and written in Mr. Butterworth's eloquent and graceful style, and is something that business men, intelligent women and young people will want to own. A club which proposes to study the countries named will find the book indispensable. It is published by the Doubleday & McClure Co., New York.

So interesting is Mrs. Mabel Loomis Todd's "Corona and Coronet," that one is tempted to quote whole pages of it instead of attempting in plain language to give a concise account of this story of the Amherst eclipse expedition to Japan to observe the sun's total eclipse in August, 1896. Many club women have heard Mrs. Todd's fascinating story from the platform of how she accompanied her husband, Prof. David Todd of Amherst College, to Japan in Mr. James' schooner yacht, and that the title of the book comes not from some association of the sun's corona with the royal heads of Japan but from the name of that yacht, the "Coronet." Mrs. Todd is a remarkable woman when it comes to talking about astronomy, but she does more than give popular lectures on the subject. She is Prof. Todd's chief assistant, without whom he goes nowhere. "Those who follow in the train of an astronomer, belonging to his family," she says, "scarcely know where to find themselves from day to day in an existence successfully robbed of monotony. Eclipse shadows rarely fall upon him comfortably ensconced in his home observatory. Should he experience the good fortune of witnessing one from his own dome about three hundred and fifty years must elapse before another would pass that way. Eclipse astronomers are necessarily cosmopolitan." There is an interesting chapter on deep sea yachting by Mr. Arthur Curtiss James, and then comes Mrs. Todd's story of the trip from the preparation. The journey to Hawaii, where Kate Field was taken on board, is most interesting. A pathetic chapter gives the details of Miss Field's death and then the story, as fascinating as any volume of fiction

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could possibly be, which goes on to tell of their trip to Japan and their experiences in that far, strange land. The book is beautifully illustrated and will be widely read. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

Another name well known to club women all over the country appears on the list of authors who have recently sent out books that are worth having. Mrs. Harriet H. Robinson (the mother of Harriette R. Shattuck, the great parliamentarian,) is a familiar person to all who have attended the Biennials, where her voice has often been heard from platform and from floor. Her book, "Loom and Spindle," is a well told tale of the days when she was young and worked side by side with Lucy Larcom and other noble women in the Lowell cotton factories, in the days when a mill operative was a person of distinction rather than a "hand." Mrs. Robinson's childhood in Boston and Lowell is graphically pictured, showing the differences between life the early part of this century and now. There is a full account of the first woman's literary club in this country, which she says was "a remote cause of the hundreds which now make up the General Federation," and which was an organization of those eager, intelligent young women who afterward established and maintained the famous "Lowell Offering," the first woman's magazine. The book is full of charming reminiscences and closes with some pertinent suggestions for the cotton manufacturers of today. T. Y. Crowell & Co. are the publishers.

"Twixt You and Me" is a graceful, simple story by Mrs. Henry M. Upham of Boston, who is better known in print as "Grace Le Baron." The book is very daintily attired in a chocolate colored cover sprinkled with forget-me-nots, and a violet-wreathed title page. It is poetic in treatment all the way through, with beautiful engravings of flowers offset by dainty poems which remind one of bygone days in literature, when the "Ladies' Offering" was the fashion. These are, however, all interwoven with a charming story for young people, pure in tone and choice in expression. "Twixt You and Me" is a more ambitious piece of literary work than the "Rosebud Series," and no better book could be chosen as a Christmas or birthday gift for a young girl. Little, Brown & Co. are the publishers.

"In Kings' Houses" is a historical novel by Mrs. Julia C. R. Dorr, Vermont's leading poet. Mrs. Dorr's poems and travel sketches have earned for her a distinct place in American literature, and her romance, "In Kings' Houses," is written with all the charm of her earlier works. The story deals with one of the most romantic episodes in English history. Queen Anne, the last of the reigning Stuarts, is described with a strong, yet sympathetic touch, and the young Duke of Gloster, the "little lady," and the hero of the tale, Robin Sandys, are delightful characterizations. Contrary to the fashion of some of the modern historical romances the story "comes out well," and holds the close attention of the reader from start to finish. It is a book for all to read. Published by L. C. Page & Co., Boston.

Those interested in poetry will note with pleasure the publication by Messrs. Hadley & Mathews of New York of the Centenary edition of The Lyrical Ballads of Wordsworth and Coleridge. The volume contains an introduction and notes by Thomas Hutchinson of Trinity College, Dublin, editor of the Clarendon Press "Wordsworth," and reprints for the first time the original text of Wordsworth's Peter Bell, as well as Coleridge's Lewti, The Three Graves and The Wanderings of Cain. There are as well beautiful photogravure reproductions of both of the poets, the originals of which are now in the National Portrait Gallery.

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Miss Mary A. Tobin of Swanton, Vt., a graduate of the New York School of Expression, recently appeared before the New England Woman's Press Association and the Daughters of Vermont in Boston with great success. Miss Tobin has an exceptionally fine method, delivering her selections with that ease and naturalness which comes with the highest culture, backed by an intelligent and intellectual understanding of her authors.

Mrs. Mary Dame Hall, who has been for two years president of New York Sorosis, has been obliged by prolonged ill health to resign that office. For a year past Mrs. Hall's health has been in a very precarious condition, and for several months she has been in a sanitarium in Michigan, although she has now improved sufficiently to be removed to her sister's home in Detroit, where she will remain through the winter, if able. Mrs. Hall has long been an active and popular member of the executive board of Sorosis and her resignation was accepted with regret. The vice-president, Mrs. Dimies T. S. Denison, another exceedingly popular woman, has been elected president.

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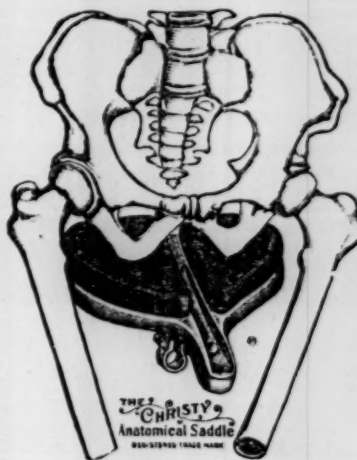
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